

# Council

## Minutes

### 24 November 2022

**Present:** Councillor Janet Mote (The Worshipful the Mayor)

Councillor Ramji Chauhan (The Deputy Mayor)

**Councillors:**

Ghazanfar Ali	Hitesh Karia
Dan Anderson	Eden Kulig
David Ashton	Kuha Kumaran
Marilyn Ashton	Jean Lammiman
Peymana Assad	Jerry Miles
Christopher Baxter	Vipin Mithani
June Baxter	Amir Moshenson
Philip Benjamin	Phillip O'Dell
Govind Bharadia	Paul Osborn
Nicola Blackman	Nitin Parekh
Simon Brown	Mina Parmar
Salim Chowdhury	Varsha Parmar
Kandy Dolor	Anjana Patel
Dean Gilligan	Pritesh Patel
Matthew Goodwin-Freeman	Kanti Rabadia
Stephen Greek	Aneka Shah-Levy
Chetna Halai	Rekha Shah
Susan Hall	Norman Stevenson
Graham Henson	Samir Sumaria
Maxine Henson	Krishna Suresh
Stephen Hickman	Sasi Suresh
Thaya Idaikkadar	Yogesh Teli
Ameet Jogia	Zak Wagman
Rashmi Kalu	Antonio Weiss

**Apologies received:**

Councillor Shahania  
Choudhury  
Councillor Nitesh Hirani

Councillor Asif Hussain  
Councillor Natasha Proctor

**Joined Virtually:** Councillor David Perry

## PRAYERS

The meeting opened with Prayers offered by Monsignor Vincent G Brady of St Luke's Church, Pinner.

### 40. Council Minutes

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Extraordinary and ordinary Council meetings held on 29 September 2022 be taken as read and signed as correct records.

### 41. Electronic Voting

The Mayor announced that electronic voting would be trialled during the meeting. Members would be asked to vote in the usual way via a show of hands and then should use the electronic voting device to indicate their vote.

### 42. Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared:

#### Item 14 – Police and Community Safety Motion

Councillor Stephen Greek declared a pecuniary interest in that he was employed by the Greater London Authority and would leave the room for the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Susan Hall declared a pecuniary interest in that she was a member of the Greater London Authority and would leave the room for the discussion and vote on this item.

#### Item 14 – Free School Meals Motion

Councillor Stephen Hickman declared an interest in that he was a teacher in a Harrow school and would leave the room for the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Jean Lammiman declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a governor at Shaftesbury School.

### 43. Procedural Motions

Councillor Graham Henson advised Council that he would second the amendment to the Police and Community Safety Motion set out in the Tabled Documents.

### 44. Petition - Keep Harrow's parks free to use

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Council received a petition containing over 2,000 signatures as follows

- (i) Petition submitted by Hugh Brown containing over 2,000 signatures stating

“We the undersigned, call on Harrow Council to halt its plans to charge for the use of tennis courts, and commit to ensuring our parks and the facilities within them remain free for all to enjoy.”

- (ii) Debate was held on the content of the petition.

**RESOLVED: That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director of Place for consideration.**

#### **45. Petitions**

In accordance with Rule 10, the following petitions were received:

- (i) Petition submitted by Councillor Nitin Parekh containing 15 signatures in relation to fly tipping in Torbridge Close.
- (ii) Petition submitted by Councillor Nitin Parekh containing 36 signatures in relation to fly tipping, street cleansing, anti-social behaviour and flooding in Methuen Close and Overbrook Walk.

[The petitions stood referred to the Corporate Director, Place].

#### **46. Public Questions**

To note that two questions from members of the public had been received and the recording was on the Council's website.

#### **47. Leader and Portfolio Holder Announcements**

- (i) The Leader of the Council, Councillor Paul Osborn, introduced the item highlighting the Administration's achievements, challenges and plans since the last ordinary meeting.
- (ii) Other Members spoke and/ asked questions of the Leader of the Council which were duly responded to.

#### **48. Presentation Ceremony - Honorary Alderman Camilla Bath**

There was a presentation ceremony for Honorary Alderman Camilla Bath, who was conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 29 September 2022.

Honorary Alderman Bath was robed by the mace-bearer and presented with her medallion of office and scroll of appreciation by the Worshipful The Mayor.

Members of Council spoke to congratulate Honorary Alderman Bath and she returned thanks.

#### **49. Long Service Award - Councillor Jerry Miles**

Council had previously agreed, by Resolution 192 on 18 July 1985, that Members who completed 25 years' service with the Council be presented with framed, illuminated copy resolutions of appreciation. Councillor Jerry Miles had completed 25 years' service as a Member of the Authority in September 2022, and the resolution of appreciation had been adopted by Council on 29 September 2022.

The Mayor, Councillor Janet Mote, on behalf of the Council, now formally congratulated Councillor Jerry Miles and presented him with a framed, illuminated copy resolution to mark his long service achievement. Councillors Peymana Assad, Rashmi Kalu, Paul Osborn and Anjana Patel spoke in appreciation of Councillor Jerry Miles' service

Councillor Jerry Miles returned thanks for his presentation.

#### **50. Council Vision and Priorities**

**RESOLVED: That the Vision and Priorities be approved.**

#### **51. Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference**

**RESOLVED: That the Council's Constitution be updated with the revised terms of reference, as attached at Appendix 1, the Health and Wellbeing Board Procedure Rules, as attached at Appendix 2 to these minutes, and the proposed quorum for the Board which required at least one member of the Council and one member of the North West London Integrated Care Board to be present.**

#### **52. Scrutiny Work Programme 2022/23**

**RESOLVED: That the Scrutiny Work Programme 2022-26 be endorsed.**

#### **53. Questions with Notice**

To note that three questions from Councillors to the Portfolio Holders had been received and that the recording was on the Council's website.

#### **54. Motions**

##### **(i) "Police and Community Safety Motion**

##### **Motion in the names of Councillor Paul Osborn and Councillor Anjana Patel**

Harrow Council notes the recent reforms and improvements to the police across England and Wales since 2019. This council is grateful for the 3,109 more police officers in London, as a part of the over 15,300 more police officers in England and Wales recruited since 2019 and calls on the government to continue its drive to have recruited an extra 20,000 police officers by 2023.

This Council notes:

- The change to national policy that will see every report of home burglary having a police visit, ensuring that every victim of such an invasive crime will be given the attention they deserve
- Residents' concern about the impact that illegal and disruptive protests have had on our country in recent years
- That the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act has strengthened the power that police have tackling such action
- The further positive impacts of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act on dealing with sexual offences, including extending the scope of the offences in the Sexual Offences Act 2003, providing greater powers for the management of sex offenders and toughening around child sex offences
- The substantial increase of police funding to £16.9 billion, part of which will be used to give every police officer a £1,900 uplift in their salary this year
- Under Mayor Sadiq Khan's tenure at City Hall 38 police stations have been closed, reducing the visibility of local policing
- Mayor Khan has increased his office budget by over 60% since 2016 and now costs the London taxpayer over £6 million

This Council resolves to:

- Cooperate with the government on future funding for our local police service
- Support officers new to the area through providing forums for them to meet with residents
- Provide resources for residents to keep in contact with new police officers in the area
- Call on Mayor Khan to slash his office budget and reinvest the funding in further extra policing."

A tabled amendment was received. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.11, Councillor Paul Osborn raised a point of order stating that the amendment should be ruled out due to Council Procedure Rule 17.6.1. The Mayor stated that, having taken advice from the Monitoring Officer, the amendment was ruled out.

**RESOLVED: That the Motion, as set out above, be adopted.**

[Note: Councillors Stephen Greek and Susan Hall left the room for the discussion and vote on this item].

(ii) **“Motion - Free School Meals**

**Motion in the names of Councillor Rashmi Kalu and Councillor Asif Hussain**

Council acknowledges that we are in the midst of a cost of living crisis that is affecting households right across our borough. Families are really struggling, which is having an awful impact on children who are not getting the food they need to grow up healthy.

Given the scale of the challenge, Free School Meals guarantee children a hot, nutritious meal every lunchtime. They help hard-working families save money, and support pupils to learn and concentrate at school.

**Council Notes:-**

- The financial burden food costs place on families, particularly those on lower incomes.
- The evidence from the voluntary sector and community and faith groups, who are supplying food to an increasing number of Harrow residents.
- The evidence of the growing number of Harrow primary schools offering food parcels to the families in their communities.
- Reports from school leaders that more children are bringing in an unsatisfactory lunch with many going without.
- Currently only pupils in reception and KS1 are entitled to universal Free School Meals in Harrow. Given the cost of living crisis, this Council is deeply concerned that Nursery children in our maintained schools and nurseries are excluded from this offer and that the eligibility is set too low for many families who are struggling to benefit (currently £7,400).
- The existing commitment to supporting less well-off families with cost of food during school holidays through the recent and welcome funding from central government via the Household support fund, however this is only short term with no guarantee for the future.
- Currently there are 800,000 children in England who are living in poverty but don't qualify for Free School Meals.
- Children of parents who receive Working Tax Credits do not qualify for free school meals.
- The recent Government report published on the 29th September, with the Resolution Foundation estimating that absolute poverty will increase by over 3 million people between 2021/22 and 2022/23, including 1 million children.

**Council believes that:-**

- We should do all we can to help children living in poverty to achieve and thrive.
- That ensuring our youngest students are included in our Free

School Meal offer is a critical tool to achieving the longer-term benefits a healthy start in life brings and that it is right that the potential of such a scheme be explored.

**This Council resolves to:**

- Call upon the Leader of the Council to:
  - Publish a detailed assessment of the issues and costs associated with an extension of Harrow’s Free School meal offer to include all 3 and 4 year olds in maintained nursery and primary schools in the Borough, given the importance of this, to do so by the end of November 2022;
  - Include the assessment in the development of the 2023 Council Budget as part of the budget setting process.
  - Implement the Auto-enrolment to free school meals.”

A tabled amendment was received put to the vote and was carried. Upon the meeting moving to the vote on the substantive Motion it was carried.

**RESOLVED:** That the Motion, as amended and as set out below, be agreed:

**“Free School Meals**

The Council has previously declared a cost of living emergency, which is affecting households right across our borough, due to Putin’s illegal war in Ukraine and the ongoing economic fallout of the Covid pandemic. Families are really struggling, which is having an awful impact on children who are not getting the food they need to grow up healthy. The Council and the government have provided significant support to help Harrow’s residents.

Free School Meals guarantee children a hot, nutritious meal every lunchtime. They help hard-working families save money, and support pupils to learn and concentrate at school.

**Council Notes:-**

- The financial burden food costs place on families, particularly those on lower incomes.
- The evidence from the voluntary sector and community and faith groups, who are supplying food to an increasing number of Harrow residents.
- The evidence of the growing number of Harrow primary schools offering food parcels to the families in their communities.
- Reports from school leaders that more children are bringing in an unsatisfactory lunch with many going without.
- Currently only pupils in reception and KS1 are entitled to

universal Free School Meals in Harrow. Given the cost of living crisis, this Council is deeply concerned that Nursery children in our maintained schools and nurseries are excluded from this offer and that the eligibility is set too low for many families who are struggling to benefit (currently £7,400).

- The welcome and massive commitment to supporting less well-off families with cost of food during school holidays through the central government's Household Support Fund. This has resulted in Harrow receiving £4.5 million over the last 18 months and we are projected to receive a further £3 million in 2023/24.
- Children of parents who receive Working Tax Credits do not qualify for free school meals.
- The Conservative government has implemented a number of measures to ease the cost of living, including:
  - A £150 Council Tax rebate and a £400 discount to energy bills in the autumn.
  - £326, the first of two cost of living payments, was automatically paid into 7 million bank accounts in July 2022 as part of the government's £37 billion support package. The second instalment of £324 was paid to qualifying residents in October 2022.
  - The government confirmed at the Autumn Statement that working age benefits would be uprated by 10%. On average, a family on Universal Credit will benefit by around £600.
  - The government will provide an additional cost of living payment of £900 to households on means tested benefits in 2023/24.
- Harrow Council's new Conservative administration are introducing policies which will save residents money and supporting those in need:
  - 1 Hour of free on street parking commenced in August 2022.
  - 1 Hour of free parking in Council owned car parks will be available from January 2023.
  - In January 2023, the Council will introduce a free bulky waste collection service for residents.
  - Extended holiday free school meals through to Easter 2023. The Council transferred £753,817 to schools for them to provide free school meals vouchers for approximately 6,500 households with children during the school holidays.
  - Has supported Help Harrow and the London Community



Kitchen to continue providing crucial food provision for those in need.

**Council believes that:-**

- We should do all we can to help children living in poverty to achieve and thrive.
- That ensuring our youngest students are included in our Free School Meal offer is a critical tool to achieving the longer-term benefits a healthy start in life brings and that it is right that the potential of such a scheme be explored.
- The government deserves credit for the extensive support Harrow Council has received.

**This Council resolves to:**

- Call upon the Leader of the Council to:
  - Publish a detailed assessment of the issues and costs associated with an extension of Harrow's Free School meal offer to include all 3 and 4 year olds in maintained nursery and primary schools in the Borough, given the importance of this, to do so by the end of December 2022;
  - Include the assessment in the development of the 2023 Council Budget as part of the budget setting process.
  - Continue with the Auto-enrolment for free school meals."

[Note: Councillor Stephen Hickman left the room for the discussion and voting on this item].

**(Close of Meeting:** All business having been completed, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.33 pm).

### Health and Wellbeing Board

#### 1. Accountability

The Health and Wellbeing Board is set up in accordance with section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 which makes provision for the Council to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board as a Committee of the Council appointed under section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Council can choose to delegate decision making powers to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Any recommendations are subject to the agreement of the Leader of the Council if they are not covered by the delegated authority.

Members of the Board will be required to abide by the Code of Conduct.

#### 2. Purpose of the Board

2.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board has 3 main functions:

- to assess the needs of the local population and lead the statutory joint strategic needs assessment
- to promote integration and partnership across areas, including through promoting joined up commissioning plans across NHS, social care and public health
- to support joint commissioning and pooled arrangements, where all parties agree this makes sense

The Board covers both adult and children's issues.

2.2. The purpose of the Board is to improve health and wellbeing for the residents of Harrow and reduce inequalities in outcomes. The Board will hold partner agencies to account for delivering improvements to the provision of health, adult and children's services social care and housing services.

2.3. Scrutiny of the Board's activities will be performed by the Council's Health Scrutiny Committee.

#### 3. Key Responsibilities

3.1. The key responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board shall be:

- 3.1.1. To agree health and wellbeing priorities for Harrow
- 3.1.2. To develop the joint strategic needs assessment
- 3.1.3. To develop a joint health and wellbeing strategy
- 3.1.4. To promote joint commissioning

- 3.1.5. To ensure that Harrow Council and the Integrated Care Board's commissioning plans have had sufficient regard to the Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy
- 3.1.6. To consider how to best use the totality of resources available for health and wellbeing, subject to the governance processes of the respective partner organisations as appropriate
- 3.1.7. To oversee the quality of commissioned health services
- 3.1.8. To provide a forum for public accountability of NHS, public health, social care and other health and wellbeing services
- 3.1.9. To monitor the outcomes of the public health framework, social care framework and NHS framework introduced from April 2013)
- 3.1.10. To authorise Harrow's Integrated Care Board's annual assessment
- 3.1.11. To produce a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and revise every three years
- 3.1.12. Undertake additional responsibilities as delegated by the local authority or the Integrated Care Board e.g. considering wider health determinants such as housing, or be the vehicle for lead commissioning of learning disabilities services.

#### **4. Membership**

- 4.1. The Chair of the Board will be nominated by the Leader of Harrow Council; or a nominated deputy.
- 4.2. The voting membership will be:
  - Members of the Council nominated by the Leader of the Council
  - Chair of the Harrow Integrated Care Board (vice chair)
  - Representatives of each Integrated Care Board in Harrow
  - Integrated Care Board Accountable Officer or nominee
  - Representative of Healthwatch Harrow
  - Representatives from the NHS
- 4.3. The following Advisors will be non-voting members:
  - Director of Public Health
  - Chief Officer, Voluntary and Community Sector
  - Senior Officer of Harrow Police
  - Chair of the Harrow Safeguarding Children and Adult Board
  - Chief Operating Officer – Integrated Care Board
  - Corporate Director, People
  - Director Adult Social Services

- 4.4. The voluntary and community sector representative shall be nominated by the Voluntary Community Sector Forum on an annual basis.
- 4.5. Board Members are appointed annually. Board Members shall each name a reserve who will have the authority to make decisions in the event that they are unable to attend a meeting.
- 4.6. Board members shall sign a register of attendance at each meeting and should not normally miss more than one meeting within a financial year.
- 4.7. A representative from the North West London Integrated Care Board will serve as the vice chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 4.8. Key providers in Harrow will be invited to attend meetings as required depending on the subject under discussion.
- 4.9. Other agencies and organisations will be invited as the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) develops to enable good outcomes to be delivered for Harrow's citizens.

#### **4.10. Participation of the NHS England**

- 4.10.1. NHS England must appoint a representative to join Harrow's Health and Wellbeing Board for the purpose of participating in the Boards preparation of the JSNA and JHWS.
- 4.10.2. The Health and Wellbeing Board can request the participation of the NHS England representative when the Health and Wellbeing Board is considering a matter that relates to the exercise or proposed exercise of the commissioning functions of NHS England in relation to Harrow.

#### **4.11. Meeting Frequency**

- 4.11.1. The Board shall meet bi monthly subject to review
- 4.11.2. An extraordinary meeting will be called when the Chair considers this necessary and/or in the circumstances where the Chair receives a request in writing by 50% of the voting membership of the Board

#### **4.12. Health and Wellbeing Board Executive**

- 4.12.1. The purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board Executive is to:
  - Develop and deliver a programme of work based on the Joint Commissioning priorities and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
  - Shape future years joint commissioning
  - Shape the agenda for future HWB meetings

- Engage and understand the views of different organisations (including providers)
  - Bring together a collective view of partners and providers to the bi-monthly Health and Wellbeing Board
  - Share Commissioning Intentions and common priorities
  - Govern and quality assure the Health and Wellbeing Board work programme
  - Be aware and discuss emerging policy and strategy
  - Problem Solving
- 4.12.2. The meetings of the Executive will be scheduled to meet before the Board.
- 4.12.3. Membership will consist of senior officer representatives from both the Council and North West London Integrated Care Board, including the Directors of Adults, Children's, and Public Health services, , GP Clinical Directors, and finance officers.
- 4.12.4. The chairing of the Executive will alternate between the council's Corporate Director of People Services a representative of the North West London Integrated Care Board.

#### **4.13. Local Safeguarding Boards**

- 4.13.1. The Council's two Local Safeguarding Boards have a horizontal link to the Health and Wellbeing Board and include:
- 4.13.1.1. Local Safeguarding Adults Board
- 4.13.1.2. Harrow Local Children's Safeguarding Board

#### **4.14. Conduct of Meetings**

- 4.14.1. Meetings of the Board will be held in public except where the public are excluded from the meeting by resolution in accordance with Access to Information Act.
- 4.14.2. The quorum of the Board shall be 50% of the voting membership – however there must be attendance of at least one voting member from both the Council and the North West London Integrated Care Board. Should the quorum not be secured the meeting will not take place.
- 4.14.3. Decisions shall be made on the basis of a show of hands of a majority of voting members present. The Chair will have a second or casting vote.

- 4.14.4. Each meeting will have provision for the public to ask questions. There will be a total limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.
- 4.14.5. Harrow Council Democratic Services will service the meetings including the preparation and circulation of agenda and the production of minutes.
- 4.14.6. Minutes of the meetings will be available on the website of the council.
- 4.14.7. The Chair shall sign off the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 4.14.8. Agendas and supporting papers will be available on the website of the council at least five working days before the meeting.

## Health and Wellbeing Board Procedure Rules

### 1. Application of these Rules

- 1.1 These rules apply to the Harrow Health and Wellbeing Board which was set up in accordance with S102 Local Government Act 1972 and S194 Health and Social Care Act 2012.

### 2. Appointment of Reserves

Members of the Board shall each have a named Reserve who will have the authority to make decisions in the event that they are unable to attend a meeting. The Reserve will not be able to exercise any special powers or duties exercisable by the person for whom they are reserving.

#### 2.1 Reserving

2.1.1 Reserve Members may attend meetings in that capacity only:

- 2.1.1.1 to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- 2.1.1.2 where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting;
- 2.1.1.3 where the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve; and
- 2.1.1.4 if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

2.1.2 For the purposes of section 2.1.1.2 only, a meeting adjourned to another day shall be treated as a new meeting.

2.1.3 If a Reserve Member is in attendance at a meeting the ordinary member for whom they are substituting shall not be entitled to attend that meeting and take part as an ordinary member of that body.

### **3. Attendance of Members at Committees**

#### **3.1 No right to speak**

3.1.1 Any Member of the Council may attend meetings of the Board or its sub-committees and panels. Subject to 3.2 below, Councillors who are not ordinary members or attending Reserve Members of the Board or its sub-committees may not speak at meetings unless the Board or sub-committee agrees that the Member concerned may speak, or, the Member has been invited to the Board or sub-committee to speak.

#### **3.2 Motions referred to the Board or its sub-committees.**

3.2.1 **A Member of the Council who has proposed a motion which has been referred to the Board or sub-committee, shall be given at least three clear working days notice of the meeting at which the motion will be considered, by the Monitoring Officer. If the Member attends the meeting but is not an ordinary Member or attending Reserve member of the Board or sub-committee, he or she shall have an opportunity to explain the motion to the Board or sub-committee.**

### **4. Appointment of Sub-Committees**

The Board may establish sub-committees with such terms as they consider necessary for the proper discharge of the functions of the Board.

### **5. Chiring Board Meetings**

The Chair will be nominated by the Leader of the Council and appointed by Harrow Council.

#### **5.1 Vice Chair of the Board**

The Vice-Chair will be appointed by the North West London Integrated Care Group.



## **5.2 Absence of Chair at Meetings of the Board**

- 5.2.1 In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall preside.
- 5.2.2 If after 15 minutes since the identified start time neither the Chair or Vice-Chair are present then the meeting shall elect a Chair for that meeting as its first order of business after the noting of Reserve Members.
- 5.2.3 Where the Chair and Vice-Chair have both submitted apologies in advance of the meeting to the Monitoring Officer then the first order of business shall be to elect a Chair for the meeting after the noting of Reserve Members.

## **6. Business not on the Agenda**

### **6.1 Business not on the agenda may only be considered where:**

- 6.1.1 the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4G of the Constitution have been complied with; or
- 6.1.2 the Chairman makes an announcement that does not require a decision to be taken; or
- 6.1.3 a member of the Board or any Statutory Officer has requested that an item be placed on the agenda for the meeting at any time before the start of the meeting and the Chair agrees to the item being included on the grounds of urgency and the Board agreeing to consider that item of business. The grounds of urgency and the circumstances giving rise to the request must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 6.1.4 If there is a request to add an agenda item to an agenda after the statutory deadline for publication, that item may only be considered if the Chair agrees, subject to consultation with the Vice-Chair (if reasonably practicable), and the Board agreeing to consider that item of business, by virtue of the special circumstances set out either in the report or on the supplemental agenda, that the item should be considered as a matter of urgency and specified in the minutes of the meeting.

## **7. Time and Place of Meetings**

- 7.1.1 Meetings of the Board shall take place at the venue stated on the agenda. Following consultation with the Vice-Chair and subject to compliance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the Chair shall have the power to alter the venue, day and time if they believe it to be appropriate for the conduct of the business of the Board.**

## **8. Cancellation of Meetings**

- 8.1 The Head of Paid Service and or the Monitoring Officer may cancel a meeting of the Board either before or after the agenda for the meeting has been issued provided that reasons for the cancellation are given.**

## **9. Calling of Special Meetings**

- 9.1 Those listed below may request the Monitoring Officer to call committee, sub-committee or panel meetings in addition to ordinary scheduled meetings:**

9.1.1 the Board by resolution;

9.1.2 the Chair of the Board. The Chair must, before requesting the Monitoring Officer to call a special meeting, consult with the Vice-Chair;

9.1.3 at least one-third of the members of the Board, if they have signed a requisition presented to the Chair of the Board and they have refused to call a meeting or has failed to call a meeting within five clear working days of the presentation of the requisition;

## **10. Business**

- 10.1 Business at special meetings of the Board shall be restricted to:**

10.1.1 the election of a person to preside if the Chair and Vice Chair are absent;

10.1.2 any item of business specified by the Board, Chair or Monitoring Officer or Statutory Officer when calling the meeting;

10.1.3 any deputations relating to items of business on the agenda which the Chair agrees to hear.

## **11. Notice of and Summons to Meetings**

11.1 **The Monitoring Officer will give notice to the public of the time and place of any meeting in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in Part 4G of the Constitution. At least five clear working days before a meeting, the Monitoring Officer will send an agenda front sheet by post to every member of the Board. The agenda will give the date, time and place of the meeting and specify the business to be transacted and will be accompanied by all relevant reports.**

### **Quorum**

11.2 **The quorum of a meeting will be 50% of the voting membership. However at least one voting member from both the Council and the North West London Integrated Care Board must be in attendance. Should the quorum not be secured the meeting will not take place.**

11.3 **If, after 15 minutes from the advertised time of the start of the meeting, or such other longer period as the Chair may decide, a quorum is not present, the meeting will not take place. Nor will there be an informal meeting. The Chair may announce the time and date that the meeting will be convened.**

11.4 **During any meeting, if the Chair counts the number present and declares there is not a quorum present, then the meeting will adjourn immediately. Remaining business will be considered at a time and date fixed by the Chair. If they do not fix a date, the remaining business will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Board.**

## **12. Duration of Meetings**

### **12.1 Commencement and Closure**

Meetings of the Board will commence at the time stated on the agenda.

### **12.2 Determining Business Upon Closure**

12.2.1 **At the time of closure the Chair will advise the Board that:**

- 12.2.1.1 **any speech commenced and then in progress shall be concluded;**
- 12.2.1.2 **the Chair will put any motion or recommendation then under consideration to the vote without further discussion;**
- 12.2.1.3 **any remaining business before the Board shall be put to the vote without discussion or further amendment.**

## **13. Petitions**

### **13.1 Presentation of Petitions**

13.1.1 Petitions relating to a function of the Board shall be presented to the appropriate meeting of the Board. If the petitioners request that the petition be presented at a meeting of the Board this can be done in the following ways:

- 13.1.1.1 a representative of the petitioners may attend, at the time stated for the start of the Board meeting, and request to read the petition to the meeting;
- 13.1.1.2 the petitioners may approach a Member of the Board and ask them to read the petition on their behalf;
- 13.1.1.3 the petitioners may send the petition to the Monitoring Officer who will arrange for the Chair to read the petition.

13.1.2 The person presenting the petition may only read the terms of the petition and may not make any further comments. That person will have one minute to read the terms of the petition unless the Chair determines that this time limit should be extended or reduced.

### **Deputations**

13.2 **The Board may receive a deputation on any matter appearing on the relevant agenda.**

13.3 Requests for deputations must be in writing and supported by the signatures of at least 10 residents or representatives of local organisations or businesses in Harrow. The signatories must clearly state their names and

addresses/qualifying business address. The request must explain why a deputation is required.

- 13.4 The request must be given to the Monitoring Officer at least two clear working days before the day of the meeting, although the Board can waive this requirement on the grounds of urgency.
- 13.5 The deputation to the meeting must consist of not more than four people. Those persons nominated to speak should also be signatories to the original written request to make a deputation. All may speak but the total length of the speeches from the deputation must not exceed 10 minutes.
- 13.6 **The time allowed for questioning of the deputation by Members of the Board will be 10 minutes.**
- 13.7 **The deputation shall be heard immediately before the relevant item on the agenda. The Chair has complete discretion to move any items that are subject to a deputation on the agenda.**
- 13.8 **The Board shall receive no more than two deputations per meeting.**
- 13.9 **No deputation shall be received by the Board within 6 months after a deputation has appeared before it on the same or a similar subject.**
- 13.10 Members of the Board and advisers (in that capacity) shall not be signatories to, lead or form part of any deputation.
- 13.11 **Members of staff may lead or join deputations only in their capacity as local electors and on issues other than those affecting their employment with the Council or North West London Integrated Care Board.**

## **14. Public Questions**

### **14.1 General**

14.1.1 Members of the public may question the Chair of the Board at meetings. Questioners will not be allowed to address the Board generally on a matter, they may only ask questions relating to matters within the terms of reference of the Board. Questions relating to individual cases and/or matters relating to staffing and conditions of service will not be permitted.

## 14.2 Time Limit for Questions

14.2.1 There will be a total limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions. Once this time limit has been reached, no further questions can be asked but a questioner can complete a question or a supplemental question and the respondent can complete a reply. Unless the Chair permits otherwise, a reply to a question shall not exceed three minutes. If the Board member answering believes that a longer response is necessary an oral summary will be given and a full reply shall be completed in writing.

## 14.3 Order and Notice of Questions

14.3.1 Questions will be asked in the order notice of them was received, except that the Chair may group together similar questions.

14.3.2 A question may only be asked if notice has been given in writing, by fax or by electronic mail to the Monitoring Officer at [publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk) no later than 3.00 pm two clear working days before the day of the meeting. Each question must be submitted by the questioner, identifying their name, address, and where appropriate email address, and state that the question is to the Chair of the Board.

14.3.3 **Without prejudicing 14.3.2 above, where a report is circulated after the normal Board despatch by supplemental agenda a question may be asked, if notice has been given in writing, by fax or by electronic mail to the Monitoring Officer at [publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk) no later than 3.00 pm ONE clear working day before the day of the meeting. Each question must be emailed from the questioner's email address, give the name and address of the questioner and state that the question is to the Chair of the Board.**

14.3.4 The Chair of the Board may arrange for another Member of the Board to answer on his or her behalf.

14.3.5 The Council takes no responsibility for questions which are sent and fail to reach the correct e-mail address, postal address or fax number.

#### 14.4 Number of Questions

14.4.1 At any one meeting no person may submit more than one question. A questioner will be allowed to ask a supplementary question directly relating to the content of the answer given to the written question. The Chair may reject a supplemental question if it falls within any of the categories in paragraph 14.5 below.

#### 14.5 Scope of Questions

14.5.1 The Monitoring Officer may reject a written question if it:

14.5.1.1 would risk defamation of an individual or is frivolous or offensive; or

14.5.1.2 does not relate to a matter to which the Council has powers or duties; or

14.5.1.3 does not relate to a matter which affects the London Borough of Harrow; or

14.5.1.4 would require the disclosure of confidential or exempt information; or

14.5.1.5 is substantially the same as a question which has been put at any meeting of the Board in the last six months.

14.5.1.6 is within the invalid categories referred to at 14.1 above.

No invalid questions will be circulated.

#### 14.6 Record of Public Questions

14.6.1 **The Monitoring Officer will make written questions available for public inspection and will immediately send a copy of the written question to the person to whom it is to be put. If a question is rejected, reasons for rejection will be given to the questioner by the Monitoring Officer.**

14.6.2 Copies of all valid questions will be circulated to all Members of the Board and made available to the public at the meeting.

## **14.7 Asking the Question at the Meeting**

14.7.1 The Chair will invite the questioner to put the question and will respond to the question unless another Member has been nominated to answer on his or her behalf.

14.7.2 If a questioner, who has submitted a written question, is unable to be present, they may ask the Chair to put the question on their behalf.

14.7.3 The Chair may either:

14.7.3.1 ask the question on the questioner's behalf; or

14.7.3.2 indicate that a written reply will be given; or

14.7.3.3 decide, in the absence of the questioner, that the question will not be dealt with.

## **14.8 Written Answers**

14.8.1 Any written question, which cannot be dealt with during public question time because of lack of time, will be dealt with by written answer. A copy of any written answer shall be given to the Monitoring Officer who will send it to the questioner and all Members of the Board.

## **14.9 Reference of a Question to another Body**

14.9.1 Unless the Chair decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question, but any Member may propose that a matter raised by a question be referred to the appropriate body of Harrow Council or the North West London Integrated Care Board. Such a proposal will be voted on without discussion.

## **15. Confidential Business**

**15.1 All reports, other documents, information, discussions and proceedings of the Board which are marked Exempt under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, or Confidential must be treated as such by all Members of the Board. Members of the public will not have access to these papers and discussions. Confidential or exempt items will be marked as such and the relevant part of Schedule 12A will be specified on the document. Confidential and/or exempt items will be discussed in**



**'Part II' of the Board meeting following a resolution to exclude the press and public.**

**16. Voting**

**16.1 Majority**

16.1.1 Any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those Members of the Board voting and seated in the room at the time the question was put. Voting shall be by a show of hands.

**16.2 Chair's Casting Vote**

16.2.1 If there is an equal number of votes for and against, the Chair will have a second or casting vote. There will be no restriction on how the Chair chooses to exercise a casting vote.

**16.3 Individual Recorded Vote and Explanation for Vote**

16.3.1 If, immediately before the vote is taken, any Member of the Board present at the meeting requests that his or her vote be recorded as voting for or against or not voting, it shall be so recorded in the minutes.

16.3.2 A recording of a vote or abstention in the minutes of the meeting shall be made without explanation save that in cases where it is necessary for the avoidance of ambiguity a brief note may be added at the Member's request explaining that Member of the Board's reason for voting or not voting.

**16.4 Voting on Appointments**

16.4.1 If there are more than two people nominated for any position to be filled by the Board and of the votes given there is not a majority in favour of one person, the name of the person having the least numbers of votes shall be disregarded and a fresh vote shall be taken and so on until a majority of votes is given to one person.

## **17. Minutes**

### **17.1 Signing the Minutes of the Board**

17.1.1 The Chair will sign the minutes of the proceedings at the next meeting. The Chair will move that the minutes of the previous meeting be signed as a correct record. The only aspect of the minutes that may be discussed is their accuracy.

### **17.2 Minutes of Decisions of the Board**

17.2.1 Minutes of the Board shall be published on the Council's intranet and website.

## **18. Record of Attendance**

18.1 **All Members of the Board present during the whole or part of a meeting must, before the conclusion of every meeting, sign their names in the attendance document provided.**

## **19. Exclusion of the Public**

19.1 **Members of the public and press may only be excluded either in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4G of the Constitution of London Borough of Harrow or under Rule 24 of Part 4B of the Constitution (Disturbance by the Public).**

## **20. Members' Conduct**

### **20.1 Precedence of Chair**

20.1.1 When the Chair speaks during a debate, any Member of the Board speaking at the time must stop speaking. The meeting must be silent.

### **20.2 Member not to be heard further**

20.2.1 If a Member of the Board persistently disregards the ruling of the Chair by behaving improperly or offensively or deliberately obstructs business, the Chair may move that the Member be not heard further during the consideration of that item of business. If seconded, the motion will be voted on without discussion.

## **20.3 Member of the Board to leave the Meeting**

20.3.1 If the Member of the Board continues to behave improperly after such a motion is carried, the Chair may move that either the Member leave the meeting or that the meeting is adjourned for a specified period. If seconded, the motion will be voted on without discussion.

## **20.4 General Disturbance**

20.4.1 If there is a general disturbance, making business impossible, the Chair may adjourn the meeting for as long as they think necessary.

## **21. Disturbance by the Public**

### **21.1 Removal of Member of the Public**

21.1.1 If a member of the public interrupts proceedings, the Chair will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chair will order their removal from the meeting room.

### **21.2 Clearance of Part of a Meeting Room**

21.2.1 If there is a general disturbance in any part of the meeting room open to the public, the Chair may call for that part to be cleared.

### **21.3 Adjournment**

21.3.1 Following an order by the Chair for one or more members of the public to leave the meeting room, if they deem it necessary in the interests of public safety and for the safety of Members and officers present, the Chair may adjourn the meeting for as long as they think necessary.

21.3.2 If it is considered expedient so to do, the Chair with the agreement of the Members of the Board present may adjourn the meeting for such duration as is considered appropriate.

## **22. Suspension and Amendment of Board Procedure Rules**

### **22.1 Suspension**

22.1.1 **All of these Board Procedure Rules except the Rules on Reserving (2), Individual Recorded Vote and Explanation for Vote (16.3), Exclusion of the Public (21), Suspension and amendment**

**of Board Procedure Rules (22), may be suspended by motion on notice or without notice if at least one half of all members of the Board are present and where such a motion is carried by a majority of those present. Suspension may be for one or more items of business during the course of the meeting when the suspension is agreed but may not extend beyond that meeting.**

**22.2 Amendment**

22.2.1 The Board Procedure Rules may only be changed by the Council.

**23. Ruling of the Chair on Interpretation of these Rules**

**23.1 The Chair's ruling on the interpretation or application of any of the Board Procedure Rules is final.**