

HARROW COUNCIL

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| Meeting: | Council |
| Date: | 22 January 2004 |
| Subject: | Record of Decisions taken under Urgency by Portfolio Holders/Leader and Cabinet |
| Key decision: | No |
| Responsible Chief Officer: | Borough Solicitor |
| Relevant Portfolio Holder: | Strategy and External Affairs |
| Status: | Public |
| Ward: | N/A |
| Enclosures: | None |

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, the Borough Solicitor is required to report any decisions taken as a matter of urgency to the next available meeting of the Council.
- 1.2 This reports sets out the details of those decisions taken as a matter of urgency since the Council meeting held on 23 October 2003.

2. **Recommendations (for decision by Council)**

- 2.1 **That the urgent decisions detailed in paragraph 6 of this report taken by Portfolio Holders, the Leader and Cabinet be noted.**

REASON: These decisions were regarded as urgent for the reasons set out in paragraph 6 of this report.

3. **Consultation with Ward Councillors**

- 3.1 N/A

4. **Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)**

- 4.1 Council – 28 February 2002 – Approved the Council Constitution.
- 4.2 Extraordinary Council – 28 May 2002 - Approved the Role and Delegated Powers of Portfolio Holders

4.3 Cabinet – 16 December 2003 – minute 391 - approved the Proposed Schools Budget 2004/2005

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

5.1 N/A

6. **Background Information and options considered**

6.1 In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, the Borough Solicitor is required to report any decisions taken as a matter of urgency to the next available meeting of the Council.

6.2 The Call in procedure, which is set out in paragraph 22 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Executive or Portfolio Holder is urgent. A decision may be regarded as urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

6.3 The following urgent decisions have been taken by Portfolio Holders/Leader and the Cabinet since Council on 23 October 2003: -

| Subject | Decision Maker | Reason for Urgency |
|--|---|--|
| London Development Database – Information Scheme (Ref: PHD 042/03) | Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value | The Greater London Authority (GLA) requested a response by 15 October 2003. |
| Implementing Electronic Government Return 2003 (Ref: PHD 046/03) | Finance, Human Resources and Performance Management | The document had to be lodged with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister by 10 November 2003. |
| Review of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS): Protecting our Historic Environment - Making the System Work Better (Ref: PHD 047/03) | Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value | The DCMS requested the Authority's views by the end of October 2003. |
| Consultation on Planning Policy Guidance Note 3 – Housing (Ref: PHD 051/03) | Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value | Comments on the consultation paper were required to be received by 31 October 2003. |
| Education PFI (Special Schools) (Ref: PHD 053/03) | Leader | To confirm the verbal agreements which led to the signing of the PFI contract on 2 September 2003. |
| Allocation of First, Middle and High School Places (Ref: PHD 054/03) | Education and Lifelong Learning | There was a need to place the child in school as quickly as possible to ensure the least possible disruption to their education. |
| Q v The London Borough of Harrow (Ref: PHD 058/03) | Strategy and External Affairs | In order for the London Borough of Harrow to be represented at an oral hearing on 12 December 2003. |

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| Property in Uxbridge Road, Hatch End (Ref: PHD 061/03) | Leader | The deadline for challenging the Planning Inspector's decision was 18 December 2003. |
| Approval of Disabled Adaptations to 1 Courtenay Avenue (Ref: PHD 066/03) | Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value | The property was empty and the prospective tenant could not move in until the necessary adaptation works had been carried out. |
| Kenmore Park Estate Community Centre – Request for Use by Harrow Youth and Community Project (Ref: PHD 067/03) | Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value | The Harrow Youth and Community Project (HYCP) is due to start operating at the beginning of January 2004. To enable this to happen, an urgent decision was required to grant the HYCP free use of the Community Centre for three hours each week. |
| Key Decision – Proposed Schools Budget 2004/2005 | Cabinet | The deadline for submission of the Proposed Schools Budget 2004/5 to the Secretary of State for Education was 31 December 2003. |

6.4 Records of these decisions have been circulated to all Members of the Council, Libraries and Press and have also been published on the website.

7. **Consultation**

7.1 In accordance with paragraph 23.3 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must agree that the decision proposed is reasonable in the circumstances and should be treated as a matter of urgency.

8. **Finance Observations**

8.1 As per the individual reports to the relevant Portfolio Holder and the report to Cabinet on the Proposed Schools Budget 2004/5.

9. **Legal Observations**

9.1 None.

10. **Conclusion**

10.1 Members are requested to note those decisions that were taken by Portfolio Holders/Leader and Cabinet as a matter of urgency.

11. **Background Papers**

11.1 Portfolio Holder reports
Portfolio Holder Decision Notices
Council's Constitution

11.2 The Officers' reports in respect of the items listed below are exempt from inspection by the public on the grounds that they contain confidential information under the specified paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972.

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Paragraph</u> |
|---|---|
| Education PFI (Special Schools) (Ref: PHD 053/03) | Exempt by virtue of Paragraph 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). |
| Allocation of First, Middle and High School Places (Ref: PHD 054/03) | Exempt by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985. |
| Q v the London Borough of Harrow (Ref: PHD 058/03) | Exempt by virtue of Paragraph 12 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). |
| Property in Uxbridge Road, Hatch End (Ref: PHD 061/03) | Exempt by virtue of Paragraph 12a of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). |

11.3 Any person wishing to inspect these background papers should telephone 020 8424 1264.

12. **Author**

12.1 Samantha Johnson, Committee Administrator, Law and Administration Division.

Tel: 020 8424 1264.

E-mail: samantha.johnson@harrow.gov.uk