

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	12 November 2009
Subject:	Calendar of Meetings 2010/11
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart, Director of Legal & Governance Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor David Ashton, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Partnership and Finance
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Draft Calendar of Meetings 2010/11

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the proposals for the Council's Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

Recommendation:

Cabinet is requested to approve the Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

Reason: (For recommendation)

The Calendar of Meetings is approved on an annual basis at this time of the year for the succeeding Municipal Year. Advance approval of the Calendar facilitates the planning and forward commitments of both Members and officers. It will allow the room booking arrangements to be put in place at the earliest opportunity.

Section 2 – Report

2.1 The Calendar of Meetings provides the framework for the Council's democratic processes.

2.2 It is established practice for the Authority's Calendar of Meetings for the succeeding Municipal Year to be the subject of consideration and agreement at this time of the year. However, the Borough Election in May 2010 and, as is the case for every Election year, the new administration's wishes cannot be known and subsequent changes in the Calendar may be sought. A specific variation in the proposed Calendar due to the Borough Elections is that Annual Council is set back to 25 May 2010.

2.3 The draft Calendar for 2010/11 follows the pattern established for 2009/10, where possible, other than those changes which are necessary as a result of public holidays, school terms and religious festivals. As indicated in paragraph 2.2, it also proposes the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Council at a later point than usual in order to take account of the Borough Elections on 6 May 2010. Thereafter the usual pattern for Committee cycles will begin. Given the volume of activity on pensions at present and the number of fund managers employed by the Council an additional meeting of the Pension Fund Investments Panel has been included in June 2010 at the request of the Corporate Director of Finance.

2.4 The Calendar makes no specific allowance for Members' commitments at the annual national party conferences or the Local Government Association General Assembly and Conference. However, as in previous years, the relevant dates in 2010 as indicated on the Calendar are:

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---|
| (i) | Local Government Association | 6 July 2010 General Assembly Conference |
| (ii) | Liberal Democrat Party Conference | 18 – 22 September 2010 |
| (iii) | Labour Party Conference | 26 – 30 September 2010 |
| (iv) | Conservative Party Conference | 4 – 7 October 2010 |

2.5 A draft of the proposed Calendar for the Municipal Year 2010/11 was provided to key Members of the Political Groups in advance of this meeting. Some of the comments received from members have been incorporated. Prior to that, all Members of Council were consulted on their observance of religious festivals in order that allowance could be made for such commitments through 2010/11.

Unison and GMB have also been provided with the draft dates for meetings of the Employees' Consultative Forum.

The Independent Chairman of Standards Committee has also been consulted with concerning the dates of that Committee.

2.6 Options Considered

It was considered prudent to follow the pattern of meetings from previous years.

Legal and Financial Implications

There are no legal, financial or performance implications associated with this report.

Performance Issues and Environmental Impact

There are no performance implications or environmental impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Steve Tingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 20 October 2009		
Name: Matthew Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 16 October 2009		

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Alex Dewsnap	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Divisional Director Partnership Development and Finance
Date: 20 October 2009		

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name: John Edwards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Divisional Director Environmental Services
Date: 15 October 2009		

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Daksha Ghelani, Acting Senior Professional, Democratic Services
020 8424 1881

Background Papers:

Calendar of Meetings 2009/10, Information on School Term dates and religious festivals 2010/11, together with responses from Members.