

# CABINET MINUTES

## 9 FEBRUARY 2012

**Chairman:** \* Councillor Bill Stephenson

**Councillors:**

* Bob Currie	* Graham Henson
* Margaret Davine	* Thaya Idaikkadar
* Keith Ferry	* Phillip O'Dell
* Brian Gate	* David Perry
* Mitzi Green	

**In attendance:** Susan Hall Minute 360  
**(Councillors)** Barry Macleod-Cullinane Minute 360

\* Denotes Member present

### RECOMMENDED ITEMS

#### 366. Key Decision: Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2014/15

Cabinet considered a report of the Interim Corporate Director Resources, which proposed the Capital Programme for 2012/13 and the indicative programmes for 2013/14 to 2014/15 that formed part of the annual budget review process.

The Leader of the Council set out the context in which the Capital Programme had been prepared, such as increased revenue pressures, reduced external funding from the government and difficult property market conditions. As a result, a 3-year rolling Capital Programme had been established and a new Capital Strategy devised to allow the Council's Capital funds to be allocated in a manner which benefited the people of Harrow in line with the priorities of the Council.

The Leader added that the bids for Capital Funding were validated by a Capital Bid Validation Panel, which was chaired by the Corporate Director Resources, with the Leader having a final say in the outcomes of the bidding process. A balanced score card was used and the Panel also scrutinised the basic details and facts on the project including revenue and capital financial implications. He considered this to be a step forward in ensuring a consistent approach across all project bids put forward.

The Corporate Director Resources explained how the Capital Programme was funded and that, in the light of considerable pressures, a range of funding and accounting options had been considered. This had resulted in the inclusion over and above the main Capital Programme of four other projects, such as the School Expansion Programme, Transformation New Projects, Land Acquisitions and Re:FIT Carbon Reduction Programme. Individual projects would require Cabinet approval and that for the Transformation New Projects, a 3-year payback period had been agreed to reduce the burden on the Council. A similar approach would be taken for land acquisitions. The Re:FIT Programme would be funded from the savings from efficiency generated.

**Resolved to RECOMMEND:** (to Council)

That the Capital Programme, as detailed in Annex 1 to the report, and the Capital Strategy, at Annex 2 to the report, be approved.

**RESOLVED:** That the Capital Strategy, at Annex 2, be approved.

**Reason for Decision:** To enable the Council to have an approved Capital Programme for 2012/13 to 2014/15.

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