

Cabinet

Minutes



Monday 11 May 2020

PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Cowan, Leader of the Council
Councillor Sue Fennimore, Deputy Leader
Councillor Ben Coleman, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care
Councillor Adam Connell, Cabinet Member for Public Services Reform
Councillor Larry Culhane, Cabinet Member for Children and Education
Councillor Wesley Harcourt, Cabinet Member for the Environment
Councillor Andrew Jones, Cabinet Member for the Economy
Councillor Lisa Homan, Cabinet Member for Housing
Councillor Max Schmid, Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial Services

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Adronie Alford

The Leader introduced the first virtual Cabinet meeting held by the Council. He noted that the Cabinet meeting in April had to be cancelled to allow the Council to focus on the emergency measures to maintain critical services and dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked all staff and volunteers involved in dealing with this crisis and ensuring front line services were still being delivered.

Councillor Coleman added that it had been a terrible situation for the NHS staff and care homes. But the Council was operating together with them to ensure there was enough testing and PPE available.

1. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2020

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 March 2020 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the proceedings, and that the outstanding actions be noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sue Macmillan.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. DELIVERING SOCIAL VALUE IN HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

Councillor Coleman stated that this report was seeking approval for a Social Value Strategy to be adopted to introduce a mandatory requirement for all procurement activities over £100,000 to generate a minimum 10% in social value.

The aim was to ensure social value activity aligned with Hammersmith and Fulham's Industrial Strategy, H&F Vision, and pledges related to Climate Emergency. It would promote a progressive approach to the procurement of works, goods and services.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

1. To approve the Social Value Strategy (attached as **Appendix 1** of the report).
2. To agree that all tendered contracts above £100,000 (including those procured from frameworks where permitted by the framework rules) have a minimum of 10% of the total score allocated to Social Value. This will increase to 20% by 2023.
3. To agree that all commissioning and procurement over £100,000 should deliver a minimum of 10% Social Value by suppliers and social value key performance indicators (KPIs) will be part of their contract terms. This will increase to 20% by 2023. For contracts under this value, Social Value will be discretionary.
4. To agree the adoption of the national Themes Outcomes and Measures (TOMs) Framework for social value measurement (**Appendix 2**) for all contracts over £100,000.
5. To agree to provide regular reporting to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercial Revenue and quarterly reporting to Cabinet on implementation of the strategy. This will include quantitative figures under the TOM framework both committed to and delivered by suppliers.
6. To agree to establish a mechanism for regular reporting to the relevant Policy and Accountability Committee (PAC).

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

5. AVONMORE, BROOK GREEN AND ADDISON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FORUM/AREA

Councillor Jones stated the full reasons for the recommendations to refuse the applications for a Neighbourhood Forum and a Neighbourhood Area were described in the report.

The Council had assessed the applications and had found that the current distribution of the forum membership was not drawn from different places across the proposed neighbourhood area. Further, the membership was not representative of the area sought for designation with respect to sections of the community and business and education sectors within the area.

As a consequence of the recommendation to refuse the application for the forum, officers had also recommended that the application for the neighbourhood area should be refused, as alone it would serve no purpose.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That Cabinet:

1. Refuses the application to designate the Avonmore, Brook Green and Addison Neighbourhood Steering group as a Neighbourhood Forum.
2. Refuses the application to designate Avonmore, Brook Green as a Neighbourhood Area.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

6. WATERMEADOW COURT - DEMOLITION, SECURITY AND LAND SALE

Councillor Jones informed that the report requested approval for an additional budget of £526,000 to cover additional security and other costs incurred due to the delay in obtaining planning approval for the scheme by the Greater London Authority (GLA) to be able to start demolition. In addition, the Council's JV partner for the development, Stanhope, had advised it could not meet its contractual obligation to secure funding for the project. Therefore, the Council would need to secure and manage the site against illegal occupation until the development phase could start under an alternative strategy.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That Cabinet approves an additional budget of £526,000 for the Watermeadow Court development project to cover the unforeseen costs set out in paragraphs 11,12 and 13 of the report to be funded from capital receipts.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

7. WATERMEADOW COURT TERMINATION OF LAND SALE AGREEMENT AND EDITH SUMMERSKILL HOUSE EXTENSION OF CONDITIONAL PERIOD

Councillor Jones stated that this report was seeking approval to terminate the Watermeadow Court Land Sale Agreement, so the Council would be in the position to find a different approach to developing the site and would target maximising the delivery of affordable housing across the site.

The Leader praised the work done by Jo Rowlands, Strategic Director of Economy, and her team to improve considerably this scheme.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That Cabinet:

1. Notes that Appendix A and B are not for publication on the basis that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as set out

in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

2. Approves the termination of the WMC Land Sale Agreement and delegates authority to the Strategic Director for the Economy, in consultation with the Borough Solicitor, to agree the final form of the legal document(s) of a “Deed of Variation” required for the termination and to enter into it;
3. Approves the payment of £3,491,066 (to be funded from a new general fund capital budget financed by an increase in the Council’s Capital Financing Requirement) to the HFS Developments 2 Ltd (being the joint venture company established pursuant to the Joint Venture Agreement) to terminate the WMC Land Sale Agreement in line with the payment structure as set out in the detailed analysis section 15 below; and
4. Approves to vary the ESH Land Sale Agreement to extend the conditional period to 14 June 2021 by way of a deed of variation and enter into it.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

8. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY TO COMMISSION AN EXTERNAL PROVIDER FOR DELIVERY OF ALTERNATIVE PROVISION SCHOOL PLACES IN HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

Councillor Culhane stated that the Council had a statutory responsibility to ensure that there was an adequate supply of good quality Alternative Provision (AP) and that all children and young people of compulsory school age would have access to a school or a form of Alternative Provision. This included offering a broad range of support, including short-term intervention for pupils at risk of exclusion and full-time/longer-term placements as an alternative to permanent exclusion. He thanked the secondary school Headteachers in the borough for working together with the Council on this report.

Councillor Coleman praised the report and the additional benefits it would bring by creating new jobs and serving the community, as well as taking into account environmental issues.

The Leader thanked Councillor Culhane, Jan Parnell, Assistant Director of Education, and Gary Kynaston, Headteacher of Hammersmith Academy, for their involvement on this report, which would significantly improve the service provided.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That Cabinet:

1. Notes that Appendices 3 and 4 are not for publication on the basis that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as set out in paragraph 3 or information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings under paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
2. Approves the Procurement Strategy as set out in Appendix 1.
3. Approves the award of the Alternative Provision services contract to TBAP Multi-Academy Trust for the period of 1st June 2020 until 31st August 2022 for the total of £6,313,311.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

9. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR THE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE OF PARKS, PUBLIC OPEN SPACES AND HOUSING ESTATES

The Leader stated that since the Cabinet report was published, he had become aware that the Parks Commission, who were doing some excellent work with the intention of reporting in the Autumn, had produced an interim report which should be ready to be considered at the June Cabinet meeting or later. Accordingly, he decided to postpone consideration of this report until Cabinet could consider the interim findings of the Parks Commission.

The Leader added that the Parks Commission's early findings could impact on the procurement strategy. It was important that the residents could have the opportunity to influence both the future strategy for the Council's parks and open spaces and future procurement processes.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY CABINET:

That this report be withdrawn

10. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

The Key Decision List was noted.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

COVID-19 pandemic

The Leader stressed that the Council’s priority was saving lives and keeping people safe. It was also focusing on the welfare of its citizens and on ways to help local business to recuperate in an economic projected to shrink until 2023. He added that the Council was lobbying the central government to work on a large-scale plan with the G20 as this was the scale of the action needed to get the economy moving again to help London and the rest of the country up and running. A report would be brought to the next Cabinet meeting on this issue.

Councillor Jones confirmed that the Council would be bringing forward a plan about recovery and economic regeneration at the next meeting. He thanked officers from the Economy team for their continuous support and engagement with local business in all sectors who were facing extreme challenges.

Councillor Coleman informed that the NHS in London had prepared a paper that would fundamentally shift the way integrated health and care would be delivered in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Councillor Coleman was concerned that local authorities were not given any chance to comment on it and there was no time for proper scrutiny. He had written a response from the borough to the local Clinical Commissioning Group and asked them to pass it on to NHS London stating that local authorities needed authentic partnership working.

The Leader suggested publishing Councillor Coleman’s letter on the website and bringing a paper on the issue to Cabinet.

The Leader stated that there had been a degree of confusion following the Prime Minister speech on 10 May on coronavirus, as it was unclear and raised many questions. The Council was seeking clarification, but meanwhile the advice to Council’s non key-workers staff and residents was to stay at home, keep safe and not use public transport.

The Leader concluded the meeting thanking H&F CAN and the 2,200 volunteers carrying out consistent inspirational work.

Meeting started: 6.30 pm
Meeting ended: 7.10 pm

Chair