

Cabinet

Minutes



Monday 18 July 2022

NOTE: This meeting was held remotely. A recording of the meeting can be watched at on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/lmfYy2BvzNE>

PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Cowan, Leader of the Council
Councillor Ben Coleman, Deputy Leader
Councillor Wesley Harcourt, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology
Councillor Andrew Jones, Cabinet Member for The Economy
Councillor Sharon Holder, Cabinet Member for Public Realm
Councillor Rebecca Harvey, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Community Safety
Councillor Bora Kwon, Cabinet Member for Civic Renewal
Councillor Rowan Ree, Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform
Councillor Alex Sanderson, Cabinet Member for Children and Education
Councillor Frances Umeh, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Andrew Dinsmore
Councillor Zarar Qayyum
Councillor Patricia Quigley

1. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2022

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 June 2022 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the proceedings, and that the outstanding actions be noted.

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.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

RESOLVED:

There were no apologies for absence.

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.

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

RESOLVED:

There were no declarations of interest.

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.

4. **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR PHASE 2 OF THE 'PREPARING FOR NET-ZERO' PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:

Councillor Rowan Ree introduced the report seeking to approve the proposed procurement strategy to allow the Council to award contract for the supply and installation of decarbonisation measures at H&F non-domestic sites. It was a response to the Council's commitment to become a net-zero borough by 2030.

The Leader added that the current heatwave was seeing temperatures reaching 40 degrees around the country, which was evidence that climate change was an undeniable reality.

Councillor Wesley Harcourt stated that this report was about the procurement strategy for the Council's application to the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) for future projects. It was one of the phases of the process of decarbonisation of buildings to become a net-zero borough by 2030. Further phases would be subject to consultation with the resident-led Climate Strategy Implementation Group, schools, and voluntary sectors.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CABINET MEMBERS:

That Cabinet approves the proposed procurement strategy to access the REFIT framework via a mini-competition which would allow the Council to award contract for the supply and installation of decarbonisation measures at H&F non-domestic sites (in the region of 39 properties) for a contract value of up to £8m.

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. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2022-2025

RESOLVED:

The Leader stated that it was the Council's intention to transform the borough into a global economic hotspot in science, engineering, mathematics, technology, medicine, media and arts. The Council was in a fortunate position not only because of its location but also due to its Industrial Strategy with Imperial College London. In 2017 this partnership launched the White City Innovation District, which was growing rapidly and attracting new businesses.

Councillor Andrew Jones stated that this report provided an overview of the approach for the three-year economic development programme to facilitate and deliver inclusive growth in the borough. It focuses on three areas: delivering the Industrial Strategy and economic growth for everyone; supporting business and enterprise; and improving employment & skills.

Councillor Andrew Dinsmore, Opposition Deputy Leader, asked the reason for the high employment in the borough when the country was experiencing a national labour shortage, and how the Council's unemployment figures compared to other boroughs.

The Leader replied that the borough's unemployment level was concurrent to other boroughs but not as high as other boroughs in West London. The closure of Heathrow Airport during the pandemic generated high unemployment levels in large parts of West London in the food processing business, travel industry, airlines, airport staff, etc, with a mixture of high and low skilled job losses. Despite that, Hammersmith & Fulham had more economic growth than the rest of West London, which was a tribute to the Industrial Strategy that had created 6,500 highly skilled jobs since it was launched. However, he was concerned about the lower skilled jobs in the retail, hospitality, and other sectors as people out of work were struggling to find a new job. Therefore the Council was setting up mechanisms to deal with that.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CABINET MEMBERS:

That Cabinet notes the overall approach for the three-year economic development programme to facilitate and deliver inclusive growth in the borough.

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. INVESTING IN NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES IN THE BOROUGH

RESOLVED:

Councillor Andrew Jones introduce the report seeking approval for project budgets for four sites to develop new affordable homes in the borough. The four projects combined could deliver 80 new homes, of which 61% would be affordable, prioritised for local residents. This was the initial stage of the development programme to deliver 1,800 new homes over the coming years in the borough. Later stages of the project would come back to Cabinet for approval.

Councillor Andrew Dinsmore asked the reason for the Council not using a Housing Association for the proposed development.

Councillor Andrew Jones replied that at this stage they would use a contractor to undertake the development and at a later stage they would look at partnership with Housing Associations and landlords, depending on the final proposals.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CABINET MEMBERS:

That Cabinet:

1. Approves that appendices 1-4 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 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
2. Approves a project development budget of £900,878 for progression and delivery of LBHF's development Gateway 2 – Planning (RIBA Stages 2+3) & Gateway 3 - Procurement (RIBA Stage 4) for Barclay Close, funded from new Housing Revenue Account (HRA) borrowing.
3. Approves a project development budget of £1,677,922 for progression and delivery of LBHF's development Gateway 2 – Planning (RIBA Stages 2+3) & Gateway 3 – Procurement (RIBA Stage 4) for Becklow Gardens, funded from new HRA borrowing.
4. Approves a project development budget of £1,732,504 for progression and delivery of LBHF's development Gateway 2 – Planning (RIBA Stages 2+3) & Gateway 3 – Procurement (RIBA Stage 4) for land behind the Grange, funded from new HRA borrowing.
5. Approves a project development budget of £3,200,724 for progression and delivery of LBHF's development Gateway 2 – Planning (RIBA Stages 2+3) & Gateway 3 – Procurement (RIBA Stage 4) for Jepson House, funded from new HRA borrowing.
6. Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Economy in consultation with the Assistant Director Legal Services and the Director of Finance to approve procurement strategies and appointments of the consultant teams for RIBA stages 2-4 and to take all necessary steps to facilitate the decisions in recommendations 2 - 6 including the completion of any associated legal agreements.

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. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

RESOLVED:

The Key Decision List was noted.

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. DISCUSSION OF EXEMPT ELEMENTS (IF REQUIRED)

RESOLVED:

There was no discussion of exempt elements.

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.

Meeting started: 7.00 pm

Meeting ended: 7.14 pm

Chair