

## **SUMMARY OF URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE LEADER REPORTED TO CABINET FOR INFORMATION**

The following reports were considered in accordance with paragraph 1.21 of the Leader's Portfolio.

### **ITEM**

#### **11.1 CONSULTATION ON THE COUNCIL'S COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

From April 2013, and as part of its general Resource Review, the Government is abolishing the council tax benefit scheme and requiring each local authority to implement a local scheme which will receive 10% less funding than currently.

The new schemes will provide support for council tax by way of a discount rather than a benefit, but local authorities will have to protect pensioners and vulnerable groups.

It is the intention of the council to absorb this 10% reduction and implement a local scheme that mirrors the current council tax benefit scheme.

#### **Reasons for Urgency:**

We must have any scheme in place by 31 January 2013, but are also required to consult with the GLA (as precepting authority) and the public on this approach.

In order that we can meet the timescales (which includes the implementation of new IT systems) we seek approval to commence this consultation immediately.

#### **Decision taken by the Leader on: 9 August 2012**

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1. That approval is given to start public consultation on the Council's proposed scheme (to absorb the 10% reduction in grant) which will ensure no residents are worse off in 2013/14.**
- 2. That this approach is revisited for 2014/15 and a further report is submitted on future options.**

**Wards: All**

#### **11.2 EARL'S COURT REDEVELOPMENT**

This report seeks authority for the Council to enter into a supplemental agreement with Capital & Counties plc which extends the period of negotiations for a potential Land Sale Agreement for a further period of six months beyond 29 July 2012.

#### **Reasons for Urgency:**

The Exclusivity Agreement which was entered into on 29 July 2011 will expire at the end of July. It had been hoped that a final form of Agreement would have been settled by this stage which could be considered by the Cabinet before the end of July. However, whilst progress has been made with the negotiations, these have still to be finalised. It is anticipated that they will be completed within the next few weeks and therefore an additional six month

period for negotiations is required

**Decision taken by the Leader on: 10 July 2012**

**Recommendation:**

**That approval be given to enter into a Supplemental Agreement with Capital and Counties plc extending the period of the original Exclusivity Agreement dated 29 July 2011 by a further six months until 29 January 2013 to allow further negotiations between the parties concerning the terms of a possible Land Sale Agreement for the inclusion of the West Kensington and Gibbs Green estates in the proposed comprehensive redevelopment scheme.**