

Cabinet

Minutes

Monday 23 June 2014

PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Cowan, Leader of the Council
Councillor Michael Cartwright, Deputy Leader
Councillor Wesley Harcourt, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport & Residents Services
Councillor Lisa Homan, Cabinet Member for Housing
Councillor Vivienne Lukey, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care
Councillor Sue Macmillan, Cabinet Member for Children and Education
Councillor Max Schmid, Cabinet Member for Finance
Councillor Andrew Jones, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration
Councillor Sue Fennimore, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Marcus Ginn
Councillor Steve Hamilton
Councillor Lucy Ivimy

1. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2014

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 28 April 2014 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the proceedings, and that the outstanding actions be noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. REVIEW OF THE HOUSING STRATEGY

Cabinet received a report requesting it to confirm that it is a policy of the Council to increase the supply of affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership opportunities in the borough. It was noted that this priority would be incorporated as an amendment to the existing Housing Strategy with immediate effect. The Economic Regeneration, Housing and the Arts Policy and Accountability Committee was invited to commence the process of reviewing and proposing amendments to the Housing Strategy to reflect this and other new housing priorities. In response to a question regarding whether the change in policy would form part of the Housing Strategy, it was noted that any changes recommended by the PACs to the existing policy would be considered by Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That with immediate effect the priority to provide more affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership opportunities in the borough, be approved.

That the Economic Regeneration, Housing and the Arts Policy and Accountability Committee be invited to begin the process of reviewing and proposing amendments to the Council's Housing Strategy to reflect the priority for additional affordable rented housing and low cost home ownership opportunities and other changes in housing policy.

That pending the review and amendment of the Housing Strategy, the existing Housing Strategy is to be read together with the recommendations of this report, and that taken together they comprise the Council's Housing Strategy until further amended or replaced.

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. REVIEW OF DECISION TO DISCONTINUE SULIVAN PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ENLARGE NEW KING'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cabinet acknowledged the receipt of two letters from New Kings and Sullivan Schools in response to the consultation on the Council's intention to delay implementation and publish revocation proposals. Officers noted that New King's had responded that it understood why the Council needs to delay implementation but it does not support the publication of the revocation proposals. Sullivan School's letter supported both the delay and the publication of revocation proposals. Cabinet was asked to note that section 4.5 paragraph iii of the report which related to Parayhouse was printed in error. This paragraph was to be deleted.

Councillor Ivimy noted that the explanation given for the anticipated rise in population would imply that the Council was willing to exceed the recommended density range. Officers noted that the original supplementary planning document had provision for 4000 units; however 4900 units had already been approved. In addition, a switch in policy towards more affordable housing would result in a higher child yield. The Leader also noted that the Council will tackle the perennial problem of overseas investors leaving homes empty, depriving local people of accommodation. Therefore, more school places will be required. The Children and Education Services Policy and Accountability Committee was requested to review the Schools Organisation Strategy in light of these changes.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1. That, in the light of the anticipated increase of affordable rented housing within the South Fulham area in future years, Cabinet agrees to:
 - i) Publish proposals to revoke the decision of 10 February 2014, which was to discontinue Sullivan Primary School and enlarge New King's Primary School with effect from 1 September 2014, subject to planning permissions being granted for both the interim accommodation at the Sullivan site and the proposed extension and remodelling of the New King's Primary School buildings, and the making of an agreement under section 1 of the Academies Act 2010 for the establishment of a New King's Primary School as an academy,
 - ii) Modify the current proposals to discontinue Sullivan Primary School and enlarge New King's Primary School by delaying implementation of the proposals to 1 September 2015. This recommendation arises because the 10 February 2014 decision otherwise has to be implemented by the start of the 2014/15 academic year. There will be insufficient time before September 2014 to publish the revocation proposals and consider them after the statutory objection and comment period.
 - iii) Establish a provision of £200,000 to fund a programme of capital works at Sullivan Primary School

1.2 That a further report be submitted in September 2014 summarising any comments or objections received during the six-week statutory period of publication of the revocation proposals and that Cabinet decides whether to revoke the original proposals or not (statutory provisions mean that the only basis on which it can take that decision is if it believes that circumstances have so altered since approval was given on 10 February 2014 that implementation of the proposals would be inappropriate).

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. KEY DECISIONS LIST

The Key Decisions List was noted.

Meeting started: 7.00 pm
Meeting ended: 7.15 pm

Chairman