

COUNCIL MINUTES

BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2017



PRESENT

The Mayor Councillor Mercy Umeh
Deputy Mayor Councillor Daryl Brown

Councillors:

Ali Hashem
Michael Adam
Adronie Alford
Colin Aherne
Hannah Barlow
Nicholas Botterill
Andrew Brown
Joe Carlebach
Michael Cartwright
Iain Cassidy
Elaine Chumnery
Ben Coleman
Adam Connell

Stephen Cowan
Alan De'Ath
Charlie Dewhirst
Sue Fennimore
Marcus Ginn
Steve Hamilton
Wesley Harcourt
Sharon Holder
Lisa Homan
Lucy Ivimy
Donald Johnson
Andrew Jones
Alex Karmel

Mark Loveday
Vivienne Lukey
Sue Macmillan
PJ Murphy
Caroline Needham
Viya Nsumbu
Natalia Perez
Harry Phibbs
Max Schmid
Greg Smith
Frances Stainton
Rory Vaughan
Guy Vincent

1. MINUTES

7.05pm - RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 January 2017 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Larry Culhane, Jane Law, Robert Lorgan, and Councillor Ffiske.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors Charlie Dewhirst and Joe Carlebach.

3. YOUTH MAYOR

The Mayor expressed the Council's appreciation for the hard work of Aminata Koroma and Joshua Owuraku on completion of their terms of office as the first Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham.

Aminata and Joshua gave short speeches highlighting their favourite moments in office, before receiving gifts from the Mayor as tokens of the Council's appreciation for their service.

The Mayor then welcomed the new Youth Mayor, Hiba Al Moosawi, Deputy Youth Mayor, Cas Bradbeer, and Members of the Youth Parliament, Adam Elbounabi and Sabrina Mohammed.

4. MAYOR'S/CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced with great sadness the death of former Deputy Leader and Councillor, Mrs Christine Graham. Christine, or Chris to those who knew her, was elected as a Councillor representing Coningham Ward from 1990 to 1998 then Askew Ward from 1998 to 2006, and served as Deputy Leader of the Council until 2005.

Councillors Michael Cartwright, Lisa Homan, and Alex Karmel gave speeches in honour of Christine's memory.

The Council then observed a minute of silence in remembrance.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (20 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Revenue Budget and Council Tax Levels

7.34pm - In accordance with Council convention, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan, and the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Greg Smith, were given unlimited time to speak on the Budget report.

Speeches on the report were also made by Councillors Max Schmid, Vivienne Lukey, and Ben Coleman (for the Administration).

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan, then made a speech winding up the debate. The report and recommendations were put to the vote and a roll-call was undertaken, in accordance with Council convention when voting on the budget:

FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING
AHERNE	ADAM	UMEH
BARLOW	ALFORD	
BROWN (D)	BOTTERILL	
CARTWRIGHT	BROWN (A)	
CASSIDY	CARLEBACH	
CHUMNERY	DEWHIRST	
COLEMAN	DONOVAN	
CONNELL	GINN	
COWAN	HAMILTON	
DE'ATH	IVIMY	
FENNIMORE	JOHNSON	
HARCOURT	KARMEL	
HASHEM	LOVEDAY	
HOLDER	NSUMBU	
HOMAN	PHIBBS	
JONES	SMITH	
LUKEY	STANTON	
MACMILLAN		
MURPHY		
NEEDHAM		
PEREZ		
SCHMID		
VAUGHAN		
VINCENT		

FOR	24
AGAINST	17
NOT VOTING	1

The report and the recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.01pm - RESOLVED

1. A freeze in the Hammersmith & Fulham element of the council tax charge
2. Not apply the "social care precept" levy. This means H&F residents will pay council tax at 4% below the level modelled (2% social care precept and 2% for council tax) by the Government for the coming year.
3. Council tax be set for 2017/18 for each category of dwelling, as calculated in accordance with Sections 31A to 49B of the Localism Act 2011, as outlined below and in full in Appendix A:
 - (a) The element of council tax charged for Hammersmith & Fulham Council will be £727.81 per Band D property in 2017/18.
 - (b) The element of council tax charged by the Greater London Authority will be £280.02 per Band D property in 2017/18

- (c) Social Care Precept set at nil.
- (d) The overall Council Tax to be set at £1,007.83 per Band D property in 2017/18.

Category of Dwelling	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio	6/9 £	7/9 £	8/9 £	1 £	11/9 £	13/9 £	15/9 £	18/9 £
A) H&F	485.21	566.07	646.94	727.81	889.55	1,051.28	1,213.02	1,455.62
b) GLA	186.68	217.79	248.91	280.02	342.25	404.47	466.70	560.04
c) Total	671.89	783.86	895.85	1,007.83	1,231.80	1,455.75	1,679.72	2,015.66

4. The Council's own total net expenditure budget for 2017/18 is set at £144.205m.
5. To approve £7.268m new spend on key council services, including £4.413m new funding for Adult Social Care to improve services for the elderly and disabled.
6. Fees and charges are approved as set out in paragraph 6.1
7. The budget projections, made by the Strategic Finance Director to 2020/21, be noted.
8. The statement made by the Strategic Finance Director under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 regarding the adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates be noted (section 14).
9. The Strategic Finance Director be authorised to collect and recover National Non-Domestic Rate and Council Tax in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Council Schemes of Delegation.
10. That all Directors be required to report on their projected financial position compared to their revenue estimates in accordance with the Corporate Revenue Monitoring Report timetable.
11. Directors be authorised to implement their service spending plans for 2017/18 in accordance with the recommendations within this report and the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and relevant Schemes of Delegation.
12. Members' attention is drawn to S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which requires any Member, who is two months or more in arrears on their Council Tax, to declare their position and not to vote on any issue that could affect the calculation of the budget or Council Tax.

7.2 Four Year Capital Programme 2017-21

9.01pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Max Schmid.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Andrew Jones and Lisa Homan (for the Administration).

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.12pm – RESOLVED

1. To approve the General Fund Capital Programme budget at £45.6m for 2017/18 (paragraph 5.1, Table 2 and Appendix 1 of the report).
2. To approve the continuation of the Council's rolling programmes and the continued use of internal funding for 2017/18 General Fund 'Mainstream' Programme as set out in Table 3 (paragraph 5.2 of the report) and specifically as follows:
 - Capital receipts and internal borrowing amounting to £5.48m to fund the Council's rolling programmes as follows:

	£m
Disabled Facilities Grant [ASC]	0.45
Planned Maintenance/DDA Programme [ENV]	2.50
Footways and Carriageways [ENV]	2.03
Parks Programme [ENV]	0.50
Total	5.48

- Contributions from revenue amounting to £0.544m to fund the Council's rolling programmes as follows:

	£m
Controlled Parking Zones [ENV]	0.275
Column Replacement [ENV]	0.269
Total	0.544

3. To note existing capital receipts funded schemes previously approved, but now scheduled for 2017/18 (paragraph 5.2, Table 3 of the report):

One off schemes:

- Schools' Organisation Strategy - £0.8m

- Carnwath Road - £ 3.07m

Rolling programmes:

- Parks Programme- £0.335m
 - Planned Maintenance/DDA Programme (including Hammersmith Town Hall refurbishment) – £5.35m
4. To approve the Housing Programme at £53.2m for 2017/18 as set out in Table 5 (paragraph 7.3 of the report) and Appendix 1 of the report.
 5. To approve the annual Minimum Revenue Provision policy statement for 2017/18 in Appendix 4 of the report.
 6. To approve the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 5 to the report.

7.3 Treasury Management Strategy Report 2017-18

9.12pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Max Schmid.

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.12pm – RESOLVED

1. That approval is given to the future borrowing and investment strategies as outlined in this report and that the Strategic Finance Director be authorised to arrange the Council's cash flow, borrowing and investments in 2017/18.
2. In relation to the Council's overall borrowing for the financial year, to note the comments and the Prudential Indicators as set out in this report and the four year capital programme 2017/18 to 2020/21.
3. That approval is given to pay the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) investment income on unapplied HRA receipts and other HRA cash balances calculated at the average rate of interest (approximately 0.40% p.a.) earned on temporary investments throughout the year to the 31st March 2017.

7.4 Pay Policy of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham 2017-18

9.12pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan.

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.13pm - RESOLVED

1. That Council is recommended to approve the pay policy statement for 2017/18 as set out in the report.
2. That Council endorses the pay schemes in appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report.

7.5 Members' Allowances Scheme: Annual Review 2017

9.13pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan.

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.13pm – RESOLVED

That the Members' Allowances Scheme 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be adopted.

7.6 Council Calendar of Meetings 2017-18

9.13pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	UNANIMOUS
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

9.13pm – RESOLVED

That the schedule of meetings in the 2017/18 Council calendar be approved.

Meeting started: 7.00 pm
Meeting ended: 9.14 pm

Mayor