

Cabinet

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Cabinet held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 at 4.00 pm at the Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Peter John OBE (Chair)
Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Fiona Colley
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Michael Situ

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark Williams.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair gave notice that the following late items of business would be considered for reasons of urgency to be specified in the relevant minutes:

- Item 7: Deputation requests
- Item 8: Policy and Resources Strategy 2016/17 – 2018/19: Revenue Budget
- Report tabled with additional recommendations from overview and scrutiny committee held on 8 February 2016.

3. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN A CLOSED MEETING, AND ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

No representations were received in respect of the items listed as closed business for the meeting.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were none.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

7. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

This item had not been circulated five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept the item as urgent because the requests were received in line with the constitutional deadline for the receipt of deputation requests.

Rotherhithe Area Housing Forum and Canada Estate (Care of Elderly)

The deputation were unable to attend the cabinet meeting. The leader confirmed that Councillor Stephanie Cryan would be meeting with the deputation separately to discuss the issues raised.

Residents of Highshore Road and Peckham deputation

The deputation expressed concern over two different issues, one relating to the codesign process and the other regarding the ensuing planning details. The deputation advised that they would be willing to cooperate with the council to discuss ways forward to improve the process and results.

Cabinet expressed their desire for informed conversations to continue on this matter with the cabinet member for regeneration and new homes, relevant officers and the deputation.

8. POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY 2016/17 - 2018/19: REVENUE BUDGET

This item had not been circulated five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept the item as urgent as the council were committed to publishing the budget proposals at the earliest opportunity to ensure that they were available to the public for comments and questions. Under the council's constitution there is a requirement for overview and scrutiny committee to review challenge budget proposals. This took place on 2 February 2016 and recommendations arising from this meeting were included in paragraphs 101 to 102 of the report. Additionally recommendations arising from a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee that took place on 8 February 2016 were also circulated at the cabinet meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That the provisional settlement that was announced by the Secretary of State on 17 December 2015 and the final settlement to be confirmed on 8 February, 2016 after completion of this report, be noted.
2. That it be noted that this report continues to be based on the provisional settlement announcement which is for four years with the final three years being indicative and that this settlement is subject to the council's making a commitment to efficiency.
3. That the key issues for Southwark arising from the provisional settlement reported to cabinet on 26 January 2016 (Appendix H of the report) be noted.
4. That the recommendations of the meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee be welcomed with cabinet responding by the following being agreed:
 - To take forward the recommendation to reopen the enhanced voluntary redundancy scheme and bring forward a report to the March cabinet
 - To bring a reprofile of a number of efficiency savings into 2016/17
 - To reconsider the remaining recommendations as work commences on the 2017/18 budget.
5. That the feedback to date from the continuing public budget consultation exercise be noted.
6. That it be noted that the budget proposal contained within the report for 2016/17 will need to be balanced in advance of council tax setting at council assembly on 24 February 2016.
7. That subject to the final settlement announcement, the budget gap for 2016/17 is £400,000 be noted.
8. That the indicative budget proposals for 2017/18 and 2018/19 and the remaining gaps of £1.2m and £5.3m respectively, subject to the final settlement announcement and future uncertain pressures be noted.
9. That it be noted that it is assumed that balances will continue to be released as planned and contingency maintained over the next three years in order to mitigate the risks of the reduction in government funding, the consequent savings programme and other uncertain pressures.
10. That the intention to freeze council tax for a further year in 2016/17, subject to review in later years, be noted.
11. That the intention to accept the government's offer to raise a 2% adult social care precept in 2016/17 and beyond be noted.
12. That the continuing progress on the completion of equalities analysis for each budget proposal, provided as a background paper to this report, be noted, and that equality analysis will continue through the cycle of planning and implementation of these budget proposals.

13. That it be agreed to accelerate a number of customer experience and modernisation efficiency savings set out (document circulated at cabinet) to deliver a balanced budget based on a nil council tax increase for 2016/17 for recommendation to council assembly on 24 February 2016. The budget schedules are set out in Appendices A to G subject to the amendment to Appendix D circulated at cabinet.

NOTE: In accordance with overview and scrutiny procedure rule 23.1(a) (budget and policy framework) these decisions are not subject to call-in.

9. REVENUE MONITORING REPORT FOR QUARTER THREE, 2015/16, INCLUDING TREASURY MANAGEMENT

RESOLVED:

1. That the following be noted:
 - the general fund outturn forecast for 2015/16 and forecast net movement in reserves by department
 - the current adverse variation of £2.308m for temporary accommodation and £2.290m for no recourse to public funds, and the potential call on the corporate contingency budget and on other reserves
 - the continuing action required to manage the public health budget as a consequence of the confirmed in year reduction in grant
 - the housing revenue account's (HRA) forecast outturn for 2015/16 and resulting forecast movement in reserves
 - there has been no change in treasury management activity since the previous quarter.
2. That the general fund budget movements that exceed £250,000, as shown in Appendix A of the report be approved.

10. QUARTER 3 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR 2015/16 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME REFRESH FOR 2015/16-2024/25

RESOLVED:

1. That the general fund capital programme for the period 2015/16 to 2024/25 as at Quarter 3 2015/16, as detailed in Appendices A and D of the report be noted.
2. That the housing investment programme for the period 2015/16 to 2024/25 as at Quarter 3 2015/16, as detailed in Appendix B of the report be noted.
3. That the virements and variations to the general fund and the housing investment capital programme as detailed in Appendix C of the report be approved.
4. That the re-profiling of the budgets in line with projected expenditure for 2015/16 and future years for both the general fund and housing investment programmes as detailed in Appendices A, B and D of the report be approved and that the resources available for the capital programme based on latest information available at Quarter

3 2015/16 be noted.

11. CREATION TRUST FUNDING AGREEMENT 2016/17-2020/21

RESOLVED:

That a total of £1,000,000 of grant funding to be distributed to Creation Trust over the period 2016/17 to 2020/21 for the objectives set out within the Creation Trust business plan that is outlined in the report be approved.

12. RESPONSE TO HEALTHY COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - PERSONALISATION AND PERSONAL BUDGET REPORT

RESOLVED:

1. That the current actions that are being taken to address the key recommendations made by the healthy communities scrutiny sub-committee on personalisation and personal budgets be noted.
2. That additional actions to be taken to address a number of the key recommendations be noted.

13. SOUTHWARK CHILDREN'S AND ADULTS' SERVICES: INDEPENDENT LOCAL TEST OF ASSURANCE 2015

RESOLVED:

That the Independent Local Test of Assurance (2015) as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted.

14. CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS STRATEGY 2016-2019

RESOLVED:

That the children in care and care leavers strategy 2016-2019 be agreed.

15. SOUTHWARK CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION SCHEMES FOR PRIMARY, JUNIOR AND SECONDARY ADMISSIONS 2017

RESOLVED:

That the primary, junior and secondary co-ordinated admission schemes for 2017 admissions attached as Appendices 1, 2 and 3 to the report be agreed.

16. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOLS - SEPTEMBER 2017

RESOLVED:

That the Southwark Community Primary Schools Admission Arrangements (“the Arrangements”) for September 2017 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed.

17. GATEWAY 2: CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL - MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LEISURE CENTRES

RESOLVED:

1. That the award of the contract to manage the council’s leisure facilities for a period of seven years to Sports and Leisure Management Ltd. (SLM) from 21 June 2016 with an option to extend for a period or periods of up to a further seven years be approved.
2. That the profile of the fee is one which results in the council being paid a fee from the second contract year onwards be noted; details of which were noted in the closed report.
3. That the delivery of the council’s fairer future promise of free swim and gym for all residents, as outlined in paragraph 17 of the report, will be delivered within the contract sum being paid to the council be noted.
4. That the success of the Due North Procurement Portal which was used for the procurement as a one off test project be noted.

18. FREE SWIM AND GYM UPDATE

RESOLVED:

1. That the findings of the pilot scheme for young people and over 60s and the plan to continue the pilot schemes until July 2016 be noted.
2. That proposals for implementation of the general free swim and gym offer from July 2016 be approved.
 - Free access to gym and swimming for all residents – all day Friday; afternoons on Saturday and Sunday until close
 - A selection of targeted offers:
 - Free access to all centres for disabled people; all of the time
 - Free swim and gym throughout the week for health referrals to key healthy lifestyle schemes.
3. Building on the council’s workforce strategy the employee health and wellbeing strategy was adopted in 2014 and the council signed the Healthy Workplace Charter in 2015. To reflect this commitment the additional proposal be approved:
 - Free access to gym and swimming for Southwark Council staff – all day Friday; afternoons on Saturday and Sunday until close.

19. GATEWAY 2: PROCUREMENT STRATEGY APPROVAL - COMMERCIAL FLEET

RESOLVED:

1. That the use of the Halton Housing Trust framework, including any new framework that directly replaces this, to procure light commercial vehicles up to a total value of £5.96m for a period of six years commencing 1 March 2016 be approved.
2. That the use of the Bath & North East Somerset Council framework, including any new framework that directly replaces this, to procure heavy commercial and specialist vehicles up to a value of £3.42m for a period of six years commencing 1 March 2016 be approved.
3. That it be noted that total expenditure across the two frameworks will be up to £9.38m over six years, this sum is slightly above the total expenditure of £9.2m that was approved at Gateway 1.
4. That contract awards from the relevant frameworks will be made in line with contract standing orders be noted.
5. That the use of relevant frameworks requires the council to register to do so be noted.
6. That it be noted that all commercial vehicles procured under the relevant frameworks will be compliant with the requirements of the Ultra Low Emission Zone which will be implemented in the congestion zone area from September 2020.
7. That it be noted that where the nature of the service allows, the use of electric or hybrid vehicles will be required.

20. DIVERSITY STANDARD

RESOLVED:

1. That the consultation carried out be noted and that the final version of the Diversity Standard as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
2. That a report back on progress be received by cabinet in 12 months.

21. RESPONSE TO THE LAMBETH AND SOUTHWARK EARLY ACTION COMMISSION

RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendations of the Lambeth & Southwark Early Action Commission be noted, the Commission thanked for its work and the opportunity welcomed that the report has given us to put prevention at the heart of what we do across the council including public health and the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group.
2. That the significant investment (£25 million) that the council currently makes to the

voluntary and community sector (VCS) be noted and that a substantial part of this can be categorised as preventative spend.

3. That officers be instructed to work with the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the VCS to co-design a new tri-partite voluntary sector strategy to be approved by cabinet in October 2016 that follows these basic principles:
 - A recognition of the significant financial challenges across the partners meaning that we must reduce duplication between services, commission efficiently and reduce demand on more intensive interventions such as hospital based services and care homes. The approach is to invest in enabling people to remain healthy and independent in their own homes and communities.
 - The need to focus on outcomes for our residents and work that integrates services to improve the quality and experience for users. The need to work together across the council (including Public Health), the CCG and the VCS on services that best support our residents and communities and provide services that offer all residents support appropriate to their needs in their local area so that Southwark is a fairer place where everyone is able to fulfil their potential and access the opportunities that living in Southwark presents.
 - The need to work with the VCS to provide innovative solutions and high quality services that improve outcomes for people affected by complex social issues such as, mental health, domestic violence, and long-term health conditions. We need the sector to develop its work with particular population groups such as young people and elderly residents.
 - The need for a thriving VCS that mobilises community action and makes best use of community resources, skills, knowledge and spaces and improves residents access to opportunities, services and buildings that meet their needs and ensure no-one is left behind, maximising our collective impact.
 - The need to work strategically across the partnership and wider community to build the capacity of the partners, promote volunteering and support fundraising.
4. That the ongoing work on co-ordination of commissioning both across the council and with the CCG be noted and that officers be instructed to bring a report back to cabinet for decision on the way forward in October 2016.
5. That the proposal the current community support services grant programme totaling £660,900 be extended, subject to agreement of the council's budget to allow it to be brought into scope of the work on joint commissioning; and instructs officers to take the necessary actions to put this in place.
6. That the ongoing work in developing a Southwark Giving Scheme to maximize and co-ordinate business engagement with the VCS be noted.
7. That the work that officers are undertaking to explore innovative models of social investment such as DERIC (Developing and Empowering Resources in Communities) be noted.

8. That the work that CCG officers are carrying out on a proposal to establish a VCS research challenge fund that aims to improve the way that statutory associations in Southwark engage with the VCS and improve pathways and use of VCS services in the borough be noted.
9. That the good practice examples of early action across the council, CCG and VCS that are outlined in paragraphs 61 to 91 of the report be noted and form a sound basis for future action that meets the early action/preventative agenda.

22. SOUTHWARK'S DIGITAL STRATEGY

RESOLVED:

1. That the Southwark's Digital Strategy as set out Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
2. That the Digital Strategy summary as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be noted.
3. That the equality and health analysis as set out in Appendix 3 to the report be noted.
4. That it be noted that the digital strategy will be a regularly reviewed document that will be updated, following the present iteration, to reflect the needs of our customers and the ambitions of the council.
5. That a report back on progress be received by cabinet in 12 months.

23. GATEWAY 0: SERVICE UPDATE - IT MANAGED SERVICES SOURCING OPTIONS

RESOLVED:

1. That the contents of the report and the intention to present a Gateway 1 report for consideration to the April cabinet be noted.
2. That the work by officers to progress the option to design and procure a multi-sourced IT service to replace the existing single supplier IT managed service be endorsed.
3. That it be noted that the timescale to procure and transition to a multi-sourced service is challenging and to mitigate this officers are discussing a 6-month extension option with Capita, the council's current IT managed service supplier.

24. BROADBAND IN ROTHERHITHE

RESOLVED:

That the progress being made in bringing superfast broadband to the Rotherhithe area be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the access to information rules of the Southwark Constitution.

The following is a summary of the closed part of the meeting.

25. GATEWAY 2: CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL - MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LEISURE CENTRES

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. Please see item 17 for decision.

26. GATEWAY 0: SERVICE UPDATE - IT MANAGED SERVICES SOURCING OPTIONS

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. Please see item 23 for decision.

Meeting ended at 6.15pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF CALL-IN UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES IS MIDNIGHT, WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2016.

THE ABOVE DECISIONS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTABLE UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE. SHOULD A DECISION OF THE CABINET BE CALLED-IN FOR SCRUTINY, THEN THE RELEVANT DECISION WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION.