

# Council Assembly

## Council Tax Setting

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Council Tax Setting) held on Tuesday 23 February 2010 at 7.00 pm at Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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### PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2009-10, Councillor Jeff Hook (Chair)

Councillor Anood Al-Samerai	Councillor Alison McGovern
Councillor James Barber	Councillor Tim McNally
Councillor Paul Bates	Councillor Kirsty McNeill
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Jonathan Mitchell
Councillor Denise Capstick	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Fiona Colley	Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Gordon Nardell
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor Mary Foulkes OBE	Councillor David Noakes
Councillor John Friary	Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Olajumoke Oyewunmi
Councillor Aubyn Graham	Councillor Chris Page
Councillor James Gurling	Councillor Caroline Pidgeon
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton	Councillor Sandra Rhule
Councillor Michelle Holford	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Kim Humphreys	Councillor Mackie Sheik
Councillor Helen Jardine-Brown	Councillor Tayo Situ
Councillor Peter John	Councillor Bob Skelly
Councillor Jenny Jones	Councillor Robert Smeath
Councillor Paul Kyriacou	Councillor Althea Smith
Councillor Jelil Ladipo	Councillor Nick Stanton
Councillor Adedokun Lasaki	Councillor Richard Thomas
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE	Councillor Dominic Thorncroft
Councillor Richard Livingstone	Councillor Nick Vineall
Councillor Linda Manchester	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Eliza Mann	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Danny McCarthy	Councillor Lorraine Zuleta

## **1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

### **1.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Mayor:

- Congratulated Councillor James Gurling on his marriage to Angela on 6 February 2010
- Welcomed back Councillor Denise Capstick from her recent tour in Afghanistan
- Reminded members' that the Mayor's Ball in aid of the 'Help the Heroes' charity will be held on Saturday 15 May 2010 at Vinnopolis.

### **1.2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT**

There were no late items of business.

### **1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosures of interests and dispensations.

### **1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Evrim Laws, Andrew Pakes and Martin Seaton. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Kim Humphreys.

## **2. REPORT(S) FOR DECISION FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

### **2.1 POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY - THE 2010-11 REVENUE BUDGET (THE BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK)**

*Report: See pages 1-58 of the main agenda and lilac paper, pages 1-2, circulated at the meeting*

There were four questions to the report, the answers to which had been circulated around the chamber on lilac paper. Councillors Barrie Hargrove, Richard Livingstone, Fiona Colley and John Friary each asked a supplemental question. Supplemental question one was answered by the executive member for environment, Councillor Paul Kyriacou, supplemental questions 2 and 3 were answered by the executive member for resources, Councillor Tim McNally, and supplemental question 4 was answered by the executive member for community safety, Councillor Linda Manchester. The questions and answers are attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(1), the executive member for resources, Councillor Tim McNally, presented the report.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Richard Livingstone, moved Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors Nick Stanton and Lewis Robinson), a procedural motion to move to the vote was moved by Councillor James Barber and seconded. The procedural motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

Following Councillor Tim McNally's right of reply Amendment A was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

Following debate on the substantive motion (Councillors Ian Wingfield, Barrie Hargrove, Kim Humphreys, Veronica Ward, David Noakes, Peter John, Gordon Nardell, Paul Kyriacou, Chris Page, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Paul Noblet, Richard Livingstone, Michelle Holford, John Friary, David Hubber, Althea Smith, Linda Manchester, Mark Glover, Nick Vineall, Aubyn Graham, Jonathan Mitchell and Nick Stanton), Councillor James Gurling, seconded by Councillor Caroline Pidgeon, moved to the vote.

The procedure motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

Following Councillor Tim McNally's right of reply the substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.13(5) the following members requested that their vote against the substantive motion be recorded in the minutes: Councillors Paul Bates, Fiona Colley, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Mary Foulkes, John Friary, Mark Glover, Aubyn Graham, Barrie Hargrove, Peter John, Lorraine Lauder, Richard Livingstone, Alison McGovern, Kirsty McNeill, Gordon Nardell, Chris Page, Sandra Rhule, Tayo Situ, Robert Smeath, Althea Smith, Dominic Thorncroft, Veronica Ward and Ian Wingfield.

The clerk announced that in accordance with the budget and policy framework procedure rule 2 (e), the executive recommendation had not been amended therefore the decision could be implemented with immediate affect.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the recommendations of the executive held on 9 February 2010 for a general fund budget and zero council tax increase for 2010-11 be agreed.

## **2.2 SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX 2010-11**

*Report: See pages 59-69 of the main agenda*

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(2) the Mayor formally moved the recommendations contained in the report.

The clerk announced that as part of its consideration of the previous item 2.1 on the revenue budget, council assembly had agreed the level of council tax for 2010-11 and Amendment B therefore fell.

Councillor Toby Eckersley asked a question of the finance director, thereafter the recommendations contained within the report were put to the vote and declared to be

carried.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.13(5) the following members requested that their vote against the substantive motion be recorded in the minutes: Councillors Paul Bates, Fiona Colley, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Mary Foulkes, John Friary, Mark Glover, Aubyn Graham, Barrie Hargrove, Peter John, Lorraine Lauder, Richard Livingstone, Alison McGovern, Kirsty McNeill, Gordon Nardell, Chris Page, Sandra Rhule, Tayo Situ, Robert Smeath, Althea Smith, Dominic Thorncroft, Veronica Ward and Ian Wingfield.

The clerk announced that in accordance with the budget and policy framework procedure rule 2 (e), the executive recommendation had not been amended therefore the decision could be implemented with immediate affect.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Greater London Authority precept level of £309.82 at band D, be noted.
2. That the council tax for band D properties in Southwark be set at:
  - (i) the former parish of St Mary Newington £1,221.96
  - (ii) the former parish of St. Saviours £1,221.96
  - (iii) the remainder of the borough £1,221.96
3. That the formal resolution for council taxes in 2010-11 (shown in appendix B of the report) be approved.
4. That the existing local war widows schemes for housing benefits and council tax benefits be continued in 2010-11.

**3. OTHER REPORTS**

**3.1 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, INCLUDING - ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY, PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS, AND ANNUAL MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION STATEMENT**

*Report: See pages 70-97 of the main agenda*

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(2) the Mayor formally moved the recommendations contained in the report.

Following debate (Councillor Toby Eckersley), the recommendations contained within the report were put to the vote and declared to be carried.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That council assembly noted the updated Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and formally affirmed its adoption by agreeing the

resolutions set out in Appendix A of the report, which include inviting the constitutional steering panel to consider future arrangements for additional review and scrutiny.

2. That council assembly noted the treasury management strategy will be managed by the finance director under financial delegation.
3. That the annual investment strategy 2010-11 set out in Appendix B of the report be agreed, keeping capital preservation as a key objective, in line with updated government guidance on investments.
4. That the prudential indicators covering capital finance, borrowing and cash management for the years 2010-11 to 2012-13 set out in Appendix C of the report be agreed.
5. That the annual minimum revenue provision statement 2010-11, for setting aside prudent sums from revenue to reduce debt, as set out in Appendix D of the report be agreed.
6. That a capital allowance of £170m, described in paragraphs 25 - 27 of the report be agreed, enabling the council to continue retaining capital receipts for affordable housing and regeneration.

#### **4. AMENDMENTS REPORT**

The amendments are set out in supplemental agenda 1.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**