

Cabinet

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Cabinet held on Tuesday 7 March 2023
at 11.00 am at Jack Hobbs Hall, Brandon Estate, Maddock Way SE17 3NH

PRESENT: Councillor Kieron Williams (Chair)
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor James McAsh
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Martin Seaton

1. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

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

The chair gave notice of the following late item:

Item 9: Southwark Construction Strategic Plan

Reasons for urgency and lateness will be specified in the relevant minutes.

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

No representations were received.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

None were received.

7. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

The report had not been circulated five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept this item as urgent (the requests had been received in line with the council's constitutional deadline for the receipt of deputation requests).

Councillor James McAsh informed the meeting that he had received representations and a request for support and guidance from Plus, a local community business and would be speaking to them and consulting relevant cabinet members.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following deputation requests be heard:
 - Sceaux Gardens Tenants representatives and
 - Brandon Tenants and Residents Associations 1 and 3.
2. Spokespersons for the deputations addressed cabinet for five minutes and questions were asked of the deputations for a period of five minutes.

8. EVALUATION OF THE GREAT ESTATE IMPROVEMENT PILOTS AND NEXT STEPS

RESOLVED:

1. That evaluation of the Great Estates Improvement Pilots as set out in paragraphs 6 to 23 of the report be noted.

2. That the approach taking forward ongoing work as set out in paragraphs 24 to 30 be approved, including exploring the use of social value in housing contracts to support estate improvements and to supplement the growth approved by cabinet of £335k.

9. SOUTHWARK CONSTRUCTION STRATEGIC PLAN

It was not possible to circulate this report five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept this item as urgent as a decision on the strategy for guaranteeing a financially sustainable housing supply and extensive resident engagement on housing schemes was key to delivering the commitments laid out in the Council Delivery Plan. The urgent approval of the report was required to avoid delays to the undertaking of a range of resident engagement. This would inform the council's approach to affordable housing supply up to 2026; these recommendations were reported to cabinet in 2024. The current economic environment required a dynamic and agile approach from Southwark Construction to deliver on both future and current developments that are already underway. This would reduce the incurrence of costs to the council moving forward by enabling Southwark Construction to remain responsive to the economic situation in its financing and planning.

RESOLVED:

1. That the undertaking of a comprehensive review that considers the pipeline of affordable housing supply in the Southwark Construction Programme, exploring a range of options that reflects the priorities of local people, creates inclusive neighbourhoods and set the foundations for a financially sustainable housing supply in future years 'Routes to 11,000 – a new council homes strategy for Southwark' be approved.
2. That the undertaking of a range of significant resident engagement, as outlined in paragraphs 30-33 of the report, which will help to inform the council's approach to affordable housing supply up to 2026, subject to obtaining any necessary approval for the appointment of suitably experienced organisations to assist where relevant be approved.
3. That it be noted that the findings and recommendations from such engagement and programme review will be brought forward, in a separate report, for cabinet approval by early 2024.
4. That the continued delivery of a number of schemes within the Southwark Construction Programme, subject to obtaining any necessary approval for procurement for the appointment of developers/contractors to deliver individual schemes within the programme and in accordance with Southwark's scheme of management, resident engagement and charter of principles be noted.

5. That it be noted that Southwark Construction will remain agile and responsive to market conditions and utilise all tools at their disposal to make the most efficient use of council resources to maximise the number of new homes delivered.

10. MARIE CURIE UPDATE

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress and next steps relating to works at Marie Curie House, delivering on the recommendations of the independent review, and reviewing the works undertaken at Lakanal to review whether any additional works to Marie Curie are required at Lakanal be noted.
2. That officers are instructed to bring a further update on these during September 2023.
3. That it be noted that the council will not use qualitative design reviews (QDRs) for other existing buildings.

11. APPROVAL TO DELEGATE GATEWAY 2 - CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL MAIN CONTRACTOR FOR THE LEDBURY ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED:

Decision by the Cabinet

1. That it be noted that the leader of the council will be undertaking a variation process in order for the gateway 2 award decision as outlined in the report to be taken by an individual decision maker. That it be noted further that the award of contract will need to be in place in order for this scheme to benefit from £100,000 per unit grant subsidy from the Greater London Authority (GLA), which results in a total contribution of £26m.

Decision by the Leader of the Council

2. That approval for the gateway 2 award decision as outlined in the report be delegated to the cabinet member for council homes and homelessness following consultation with cabinet member for communities, equalities and finance in liaison with the strategic director of housing.

12. RESPONSE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMISSION: STREAMLINING PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR RETROFIT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

RESOLVED:

That the officer responses to the eight recommendations made in the environment and community engagement scrutiny commission's scrutiny review report: [Streamlining planning applications for retrofit and renewable energy](#) (November 2022) that was prepared by Southwark council's environment and community engagement scrutiny commission and heard at cabinet meeting held on 6 December 2022 (Item 26) be noted.

13. WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - EXTENSION TO 2025

RESOLVED:

Decision by the Cabinet

1. That the Waste Management Strategy – Extension to 2025 be approved.

Decision by the Leader of the Council

2. That authority be delegated to the strategic director of environment, neighbourhoods and growth in consultation with the cabinet member for leisure, parks, streets and clean air to approve the actions that will be required to implement the projects set out in the waste management strategy – extension to 2025.

14. GATEWAY 3 CONTRACT VARIATION FOR PARKS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

RESOLVED:

That the extension of the existing grounds maintenance contract with Quadron Idverde, now trading as Idverde for a further three year period from 3 October 2023 with an estimated annual cost of £3.338m and subject to the contract provision as set out in paragraph 50 of the report, making a total contract revenue value of the extension period of £10.014m be approved.

15. GATEWAY 3 0-19 CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT VARIATION

RESOLVED:

That the variation of the 0-19 children's community public health services contract with Guys and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT) to a total value of £6,649,364 for a period of 12 months from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 be approved.

16. CLIENT CONTRIBUTIONS DEBT WRITE-OFF (OVER £50K)

RESOLVED:

That the write-off of an adult social care service user's client contribution debt of £73,178.17 be approved. The service user is deceased and there is not enough monies in the estate to pay the outstanding contribution, making the debt unrecoverable in accordance with Southwark Council's corporate debt write-off policy.

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in categories 1, 2 and 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the access to information procedure rules of the Southwark Constitution.

The following is a summary of the decisions taken in the closed part of the meeting.

17. APPROVAL TO DELEGATE GATEWAY 2 - CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL MAIN CONTRACTOR FOR THE LEDBURY ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. Please see item 11 for the decision.

18. GATEWAY 3 CONTRACT VARIATION FOR PARKS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. Please see item 14 for the decision.

19. CLIENT CONTRIBUTIONS DEBT WRITE-OFF (OVER £50K)

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. Please see item 16 for the decision.

The meeting ended at 12.50pm

CHAIR:

DATED:

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF CALL-IN UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES IS MIDNIGHT, WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2023.

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.