
PART 3B: CABINET

ROLE AND FUNCTIONS

The cabinet has responsibility for the following areas. The issues listed are the “executive functions” of the council.

Local leadership

1. To provide community leadership in the borough.
2. To lead the community planning process and the search for best value, with input and advice from overview and scrutiny committees and commissions, and any other bodies or persons as appropriate.
3. To take in-year decisions on resources and priorities, together with other stakeholders and partners in the local community, to deliver and implement the budget and policy framework as agreed by council.
4. To ensure consultation on the development of the council’s policy framework, other key strategic documents and key decisions.
5. To be the focus for forming partnerships with other local public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to address local needs.
6. To oversee and take responsibility for effective joint work with partner agencies.

Policy

1. To draft the budget and policy framework for approval by council assembly.
2. To have responsibility for drafting the sustainable community strategy and recommending it to council assembly.
3. To formulate the council's overall policy objectives and priorities, recommending them to council assembly for approval where appropriate.
4. To determine the council’s strategy and programme in relation to the policy and budget framework set by the council.
5. To determine the authority’s strategy and programme in relation to the social, environmental and economic needs of the area.
6. To exercise the council's functions in relation to community engagement and the local strategic partnership, including the formulation of council strategies for communication, consultation, capacity building and active citizenship, and their coordination and implementation with particular reference to the provisions of relevant legislation.
7. To promote human rights, equality of opportunity, and the interests and particular needs of all those who experience discrimination or disadvantage by virtue of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity,

marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation and socio-economic status as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

8. To monitor the implementation and coordination of the statutory functions and obligations of the council with respect to equality of opportunity and non-discrimination, including its function as an employer.
9. To oversee and promote initiatives on best value across the council.
10. To set the strategic direction for the council's democratic renewal initiatives.
11. To consider and promote strategic and council wide initiatives to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the council's services to the public.

Financial management and resources

12. To have responsibility for the strategic management of the council's resources, financial, land, property and staffing, and to take decisions on such matters in the context of the budget and policy framework agreed by council.
13. To have responsibility for the council's revenue and capital budgets, including the council tax base, the housing revenue account, ensuring effective financial control and the achievement of value for money, within the provisions of financial standing orders.
14. To have responsibility for the operation of the council's risk management function.
15. To have responsibility for audit issues.
16. To have overall responsibility for acquisitions and disposal of any interest in land, buildings or the real and leasehold property of the council and to have responsibility for land and property used for operational purposes.

General

17. To oversee the authority's services.
18. To have responsibility for all staffing and human resource matters including the number and type of staff, equalities issues and health and safety, subject to the authority's personnel policies and procedures except for staff appointments and dismissals.
19. To have responsibility for all equalities and diversity matters concerning both employment policy and practices and service delivery and the active promotion of the council's equalities policies.
20. To have responsibility for the council's role as corporate parent.
21. To affiliate to and appoint representatives to outside bodies where such appointments are a function of the cabinet.
22. To delegate to appropriate committees of the cabinet and to chief officers and to receive regular information reports from them with particular reference to value

for money; service implementation and development; client/customer service and performance; and the performance and achievement of equalities objectives.

23. To agree the reduction or cessation of any service.
24. To agree the authority's response to consultation papers.
25. To consult with scrutiny and take into account the final reports of scrutiny inquiries.
26. To consider whether the council should give evidence before a Royal Commission, government committee or similar body.
27. To be responsible for all cabinet matters even if not expressly set out in this part of the constitution.

Plans and strategies to be approved by the cabinet

- Asset management plan
- Employment strategy
- Enterprise strategy
- Food law enforcement plan
- Green travel plan
- Housing investment programme
- Housing renewal policy
- Housing strategy
- Local area agreement (LAA)
- Medium term resources strategy (including the housing revenue account)
- Renewal areas strategies
- Road safety plan
- Special education needs action plan
- Statement of community involvement
- Supplementary planning documents
- Waste strategy
- Youth strategy¹.

Note: This list is not exhaustive.

The cabinet makes decisions in the following circumstances:

1. Matters reserved to the cabinet are as set out in Part 3C.
2. Matters reserved to individual cabinet members are as set out in Part 3D, except where, in any particular case, the leader, deputy leader and/or the chief executive directs that the decision should be reserved to the cabinet; or the individual member refers the decision to the cabinet.
3. Matters reserved to cabinet committee(s) are as set out in Part 3E.

¹ The scheme for financing schools was removed from a cabinet responsibility by a notice of variation dated 24 January 2023