

MINUTES OF CABINET

Tuesday, 25 June 2013
(5:00 - 5:05 pm)

Present: Councillor L A Smith (Chair), Councillor J L Alexander, Councillor H J Collins, Councillor C Geddes, Councillor M A McCarthy, Councillor P T Waker, Councillor J R White and Councillor M M Worby

Apologies: Councillor R Gill and Councillor L A Reason

8. Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

9. Minutes (21 May 2013)

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2013 were confirmed as correct.

10. Revenue and Capital Final Outturn 2012/13

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved:**

- (i) To note the final outturn position for 2012/13 of the Council's revenue budget as detailed in paragraphs 2.3 to 2.10 and Appendix A of the report;
- (ii) To note the final outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account as detailed in paragraph 2.7 and Appendix B of the report;
- (iii) To note the final outturn position for 2012/13 of the Council's capital budget as detailed in paragraph 2.12 of the report;
- (iv) To approve the revised capital budget roll forward requests detailed in Appendix C to the report; and
- (v) To note the increased contribution to capital expenditure of £0.6m in the agreed Central Expenses figure as detailed in paragraph 2.10 of the report.

11. Treasury Management Annual Report 2012/13

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved to recommend the Assembly:**

- (i) To note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2012/13;
- (ii) To note that the Council complied with all 2012/13 treasury management indicators;

- (iii) To note that the Council did not borrow to finance its capital programme in 2012/13 but utilised internal cash in line with its strategy;
- (iv) To note the amendment in the 2013/14 Treasury Management Strategy Statement to the wording for the counterparty limit for Lloyds TSB, as outlined in section 6.3 of the report; and
- (v) To approve the actual Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2012/13 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

12. Performance House for Quarter 4 of 2012/13 and Priority Performance Indicators for 2013/14

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To note the corporate performance information for the final quarter of the 2012/13 financial year; and
- (ii) To approve the new set of corporate priority performance indicators for 2013/14 as set out at Appendix E to the report.

13. ICT Strategy 2013 - 2017

Further to Minute 81 (22 January 2013), the Cabinet Member for Customer Services introduced the proposed ICT Strategy covering the period 2013 to 2017.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that the financial and other issues raised at the meeting in January had been reviewed and the Strategy updated accordingly.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To approve the ICT Strategy for 2013-2017 attached at Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) To endorse the business case approval process set out in the report; and
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, to allocate the remaining ICT capital fund.

14. Modernisation of Cashiering Services

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved** to approve the implementation of Phase 2 of the Cashiers Modernisation Strategy, namely the withdrawal of face-to-face cashiering services at the Civic Centre and the internal cash-van collections / deliveries, for completion by the end of September 2013.

15. School Capital Programme Basic Need Allocation 2013 - 2015

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To approve the allocation of £10,850,000 to the projects detailed in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.7 of the report, to ensure that the projects were progressed to conclusion;
- (ii) That the sum of £17,255,818 be retained at the present time pending the outcome of the funding bids submitted to the Department for Education / Education Funding Agency and further detailed work in respect of the Gascoigne Primary (Abbey Depot) site; and
- (iii) To approve the transfer of Arden House, 198 Longbridge Road, Barking, to Children's Services with effect from 1 October 2013 to facilitate the development of early education places with a particular focus on the statutory two year old offer.

16. Proposed Expansion of Godwin Primary School and John Perry Primary School from September 2013

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved** to approve the formal expansion of John Perry Primary School and Godwin Primary School from two to three forms of entry from 1 September 2013.

17. Establishing a Furniture Bank and Providing Accommodation for the Territorial Army

The Cabinet Member for Housing introduced the report and advised that the feedback that he had received from local residents on the proposals had been very positive.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services to establish a partnership with the Disablement Association of Barking and Dagenham (DABD) to set up a furniture bank in the Borough; and
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Divisional Director of Finance and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to agree terms and legal and contractual arrangements for:
 - (a) Woodward Road Library to be used for a furniture bank; and
 - (b) Rectory Library to be used as a Territorial Army Centre.

18. Disposal of 89 Axe Street, Barking

Further to Minute 131 (16 April 2013), the Leader introduced the report and advised that negotiations had taken place with the preferred bidder in respect of a restrictive covenant against the future development of the site.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To approve the disposal of the site at 89 Axe Street, Barking, as shown hatched on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, to Elim Trust Corporation in the sum of £275,000 on the terms set out in the report; and
- (ii) To agree that the property be sold with the Council having the benefit of an in perpetuity restrictive covenant against future development.

19. Procurement of Highways Maintenance Services via East London Solutions

The Leader advised that the report had been withdrawn and the matter deferred to the next meeting of Cabinet to enable officers to carry out a further assessment of the options for the future provision of highway maintenance services.

20. Community Development Activity at Dagenham and Redbridge Football Club

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved** to note the report.

21. Debt Management Performance and Write-Offs 2012/13 (Quarter 4)

The Leader introduced the report.

Cabinet **resolved**:

- (i) To note the performance of the debt management function carried out by the Revenues and Benefits service operated by Elevate East London, including the performance of bailiffs; and
- (ii) To note the debt write-offs for the fourth quarter of 2012/13 and that a number of the debts would be publicised in accordance with the policy agreed by Cabinet (Minute 52, 18 October 2011).