

THE EXECUTIVE

Tuesday, 9 September 2003
(7:00 - 7:50 pm)

Present: Councillor C Geddes (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Councillor J L Alexander, Councillor G J Bramley, Councillor S Kallar, Councillor M E McKenzie, Councillor B M Osborn, Councillor J W Porter and Councillor T G W Wade.

Also Present: Councillor T J Justice.

Apologies: Councillor C J Fairbrass and Councillor L A Smith.

91. Minutes (19 August 2003)

Agreed.

92. Creation of Parking Bays - Digby Gardens, Dagenham

Received a report proposing the conversion of two small amenity greens in Digby Gardens into parking bays to alleviate a parking problem in this area.

Agreed this proposal in view of the benefit to local residents and the effects this will have on easing traffic congestion in that vicinity.

93. Creation of Parking Bays - Walfrey Gardens, Dagenham

Received a report proposing the conversion of two small amenity greens in Walfrey Gardens into parking bays to alleviate a parking problem in this area.

Agreed this proposal in view of the benefit to local residents and the effects this will have on easing traffic congestion in that vicinity.

We have asked the Director of Leisure and Environmental Services to produce a scoping report for the Scrutiny Management Board to look into the general issues affecting amenity greens across the Borough.

94. Review of Service Provision in Housing and Health - Taking the Next Steps in Modernisation and Service Delivery

Received a report proposing organisational changes in the Housing and Health Department in order to implement and successfully deliver a number of important initiatives, including the arrangements for delivering the Option Appraisal in respect of meeting the Decent Homes Standard, the new Homelessness Strategy and new sustainable communities in the Thames Gateway.

Agreed, in order to ensure that effective arrangements are in place for meeting and successfully delivering on the Council's statutory responsibilities, to:

1. The organisational changes proposed in this report;
2. The financial proposals for meeting the cost of these changes; and
3. Waiver the tender process, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4.1(e) of the Contract Rules, in order to continue the employment of Newbury King Consultants for a period of approximately 6 months and at a maximum cost of £28,600.
4. A Panel of Members to comprise of Councillors B Osborn, Alexander, McKenzie and Kallar to consider the appointments of the Head of Strategy Development and the Head of Health and Consumer Services.

95. Draft School Organisation Plan

Received the draft School Organisation Plan 2003, which sets out the Council's proposals to provide school places within the Borough.

Agreed the Plan in accordance with statutory requirements.

96. Town Square Phases 1 and 2, Draft Planning Brief

Received a report presenting the draft Planning Brief for the Axe Street Car Park. The report also sought approval for the draft consultation strategy and the disposal of the Axe Street car park.

Agreed, in order to pave the way for the development of new affordable homes allied to the Town Square Phase 1, the following:

1. The Draft Town Square Phases 1 and 2 Planning Brief as set out in Annex 1 of the report;
2. The Consultation Strategy as set out in annex 2 of the report; and
3. The disposal of the Axe Street car park site with the terms of the disposal being confirmed by the Director of Leisure and Environmental Services.

97. Private Business

Agreed to exclude the public and press for the remainder of the meeting, as the business was confidential.

98. Condition Survey for Large Panel System Blocks

Deferred.

99. Decent Homes Standard 2004

Deferred.

100. Restructure - Housing Strategy Division

Received a report detailing the implications affecting two JNC Officers as a result of the proposed restructure of the Housing and Health Department.

Agreed:

1. The strategy outlined in the report to manage the restructuring of the Senior Management in the Housing Strategy Division as part of the refocusing of the Housing and Health Department; and
2. The extension of the secondment arrangements for the Head of Housing Strategy to the Association of London Government.

101. Barking Town Square Development Progress Report

Received a presentation by the Director of Leisure and Environmental Services providing an update on the Barking Town Square Development. The presentation gave an overview of the current position, issues to be resolved and the next steps to be undertaken to achieve the proposed developments.

102. City Learning Centre Eastbrook

Received a report outlining progress made in securing funding for creating an extended facility at the City Learning Centre Eastbrook. The report also outlined the preferred procurement route including the appointment of the professional team.

Agreed, in order to undertake the continuing development of the City Learning Centre, to:

1. Appoint Living-Architects to design and deliver the proposed extension and refurbishment of the City Learning Centre at the Eastbrook Secondary school site;
2. Waiver the requirements for competitive tendering, in accordance with Part D, paragraph 4.1(e) of the Council's constitution, for the appointment of consultants; and
3. The procurement route outlined in the report.

103. Joint LCSG Contract for Supply of Protective Clothing

Received a report seeking approval to award contracts for the supply of protective clothing for the period October 2003 to February 2006.

Agreed, in order to enable the efficient and cost effective supply of protective clothing and workwear to Council employees and therefore to assist in achieving the Community Priority of "*Making Barking and Dagenham Cleaner, Greener and Safer*" and "*Improving Health Housing and Social Care*", that:

1. In accordance with Constitution Contract Rule 10, the participation in the London Contracts & Supplies Group consortium three-year contract for Protective Clothing and Workwear, and award contracts to Ben Nevis Clothing, Totectors Ltd, Direct Corporate Clothing and Alexandra plc for the period October 2003 to February 2006;
2. The Director of Leisure and Environmental Services approves the Council's participation in the contract(s) and their extension by a further two 12 months extensions to 31 January 2008, subject to Officers being satisfied that this offers good value for money to the Council at that time; and
3. The Director of Leisure and Environmental Services negotiates and enters into negotiated contracts with Parker Merchanting Ltd and Tuff Products Ltd for ad-hoc purchases of up to a joint maximum anticipated spend value of £41,500 over 3 years and £70,000 over 5 years, subject to officers being happy that this is still financially advantageous to the Council, and the Council reserving the right to get alternative quotes where Officers feel this might be beneficial, either price-wise, or where delivery could be quicker.

104. Contracts for Bought in Goods and Services

Received a report providing background information on the current position with regards to the Recruitment Advertising and Response Handling contract and the Placement Agencies for the Provision of Temporary Staff in the area of Administrative / Clerical Services contract. The report also provided details of the new arrangements for the appointment of agency staff for short-term cover.

Agreed, the extension of both contracts as set out in the report, in order to enable continuity of contractual arrangements.

105. Urgent Action - Future Management of Social Services and the Primary Care Trust

Received a report setting out the following urgent action taken under Article 1, Paragraph 17.1, of the Constitution:

1. The joint management arrangements between the Primary Care Trust and Social Services has been terminated and Julia Ross has been instructed to revert to her former position as Director of Social Services, on a substantive salary to match that evaluated for Directors by the Hay Group.
2. The Chief Executive has been authorised, with the Director of Social Services, to negotiate a termination package with the Primary Care Trust to compensate Ms Ross for loss of income and termination of employment.