

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 20 November 2019 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Damien Egan (Mayor), Councillors Chris Best, Paul Bell, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, Brenda Dacres, Sophie McGeevor, Amanda De Ryk and Jonathan Slater.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Juliet Campbell, Councillor Coral Howard, Councillor Louise Krupski, Councillor John Muldoon and Councillor Liam Curran.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Chris Barnham and Councillor Joe Dromey.

184. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

185. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of October 30 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

186. Matters Raised by Scrutiny

OSBP Call-in - Recommissioning of Building Based Day Services for Older Adults

The call-in agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel was jointly presented by Councillors Juliet Campbell and John Muldoon.

Councillor Muldoon began by clarifying procedural and protocol issues which demonstrated that subsequent to the withdrawal of the Day Services item at the October 10 Mayor & Cabinet meeting it had been lawfully relisted for the November 20 meeting. Subsequently however it had appeared for determination at the October 30 meeting under the terms of an applicable urgency procedure which obviated the usual requirement of 28 days notice in the Key Decision Plan. Councillor Muldoon concluded that it was important for the effective exercise of the Scrutiny function to rely upon the Key Decision Plan and he asked that the decision should be deferred for a short time.

Councillor Campbell spoke about the importance of the Calabash Centre in reducing inequalities and she urged wider consultation with the Afro-Caribbean community in Lewisham. She recognised the Budget constraints within which the Council operated but concluded that such was the importance of the Centre to the Afro-Caribbean community that any dilution should be avoided pending a wider consultation to agree a way forward.

The Mayor exercised his discretion to allow two further speakers to speak in support of the call-in.

Firstly, Councillor Coral Howard recalled that she had already spoken at Mayor & Cabinet and at Business Panel but now wished to enter a plea for a wider perspective to be taken given the seemingly inexorable growth of the BAME population in Lewisham which she predicted would be the majority population by 2028. She asked that given the financial imperatives behind the proposals it would be prudent to wait until after the forthcoming General election when more funds might be available.

Secondly, Mr Arthur Torrington outlined the historic links of the Afro-Caribbean community to Britain which stretched back to 1609 and had continued until the present day with the Windrush generation. He concluded that a dedicated centre to the Afro-Caribbean community was a vital necessity.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chris Best, responded to the call-in. She pointed out the majority of the users of the Calabash Centre would still be BAME residents and that the two centres which were being discontinued had BAME users. She confirmed there was no threat to any existing users of the Calabash Centre and that the revised EIA fully complied with the legal framework and that all required consultation had taken place. She asked the Cabinet to reconfirm its original decisions.

The Mayor thanked everyone who had made a contribution to the debate. He noted the agreed call-in text did not ask Cabinet to change its decision but rather asked for more time so that Scrutiny could examine additional submissions. After careful consideration the Mayor had concluded it was not in the interests of anyone for the uncertainty surrounding the day care service to continue any longer than absolutely necessary. The Mayor pointed out the unrelenting background of austerity in which the council was forced to operate and that it was not sustainable to fund 23 unused day care places every day. Centralising services in the Calabash Centre would improve the quality of care without impacting on any existing services. The Mayor recognised the deeply held feelings which had been expressed but stressed that the Council wished to retain the history and its ongoing commitment to the Afro-Caribbean community. He called for the continuation of honest dialogue and engagement with the Afro-Caribbean community. He proposed that a Service Users Group be created at the Calabash Centre and added that the Government had to be pressed to support culturally specific services.

Having considered the original officer report and attached decisions, and presentations by Councillors Muldoon, Campbell and Howard and Mr Arthur Torrington and then a response by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chris Best, the Mayor and Cabinet by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that the decisions taken on October 30 be confirmed.

Comments of the Sustainable Development Select Committee on protecting Lewisham's pubs

Councillor Curran presented the report and reaffirmed the Select Committee's ongoing commitment to supporting local pubs. He advised that a strong policy in the emergent Local Plan was required to maintain that commitment and that if necessary the policy should be defended at an Examination in Public before a Planning Inspector.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Chair of Sustainable Development Select Committee, Councillor Liam Curran the Mayor and Cabinet:

RESOLVED that the Committee's comments as set out be noted and the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Environment be asked to provide a response.

Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on Food Poverty

Councillor Campbell presented the report and explained it had arisen following the Select Committee's consideration of a public health report on food banks.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Chair of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, Councillor Juliet Campbell the Mayor and Cabinet:

RESOLVED that the Committee's comments as set out be noted and the Executive Director for Community Services be asked to provide a response.

187. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

188. Ladywell Playtower Restoration

The Mayor presented the report looking forward to a restored Playtower as an exciting new community facility with a new Curzon cinema, café and community space. He was pleased to report officers had worked with Curzon and the developer Guildmore to accelerate the process and agree a way forward. The financial details of the restoration were considered by the Cabinet in the confidential part of the meeting.

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by Mayor, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the reports by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the changes of use from the original proposal outlined in section 7 be noted;

(2) the survey findings which have led to a significant restoration cost uplift as

outlined be noted;

(3) the feedback from Lewisham Design Panel and Historic England on the current proposal be noted;

(4) having considered both the open and closed parts of this item, the changes from the original Guildmore proposal outlined in section 7 be approved; and

(5) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment to agree any further changes that are required to achieve the restoration of the Playtower .

189. Retention of Right to Buy Receipts

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the proposal to enable the transfer of Right to Buy Receipts to the GLA as and when appropriate and necessary be approved;

(2) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Environment to agree the terms of and enter into contract with the GLA to enable the funds to be transferred; and

(3) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Environment to agree the terms of and enter into subsequent grant agreements with the GLA to draw down the receipts for agreed schemes.

190. Response to Sustainable Development Select Committee Home Energy

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the jobshare Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, Councillor Sophie McGeevor, the Mayor and Cabinet by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that the proposed actions and response set out in section 5 be approved and reported to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

191. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that in accordance with Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 and under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

9. Award of Contract Shared Care Adult substance misuse services
10. The Future Delivery of School Meals
11. Ladywell Playtower Restoration Part 2
12. Early Help Support Services Review and Permission

192. Award of Contract Shared Care Adult substance misuse services

Having considered a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chris Best, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the Humankind Charity be appointed to deliver the Shared Care (Tier 3) Service for Adults Alcohol and Substance Misuse. The contract will be for an initial period of 3 years wef 1st April 2020, with an option to extend for a further 1 + 1 years up to a stated maximum contract value over a full 5 year period.
- (2) the stated annual contract value which is within the currently allocated Public Health Grant funding for the 2020-21 financial year be approved.

193. The Future Delivery of School Meals

Having considered a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Mayor, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the delivery of school meals be insourced in line with the model described for September 2020 subject to sufficient numbers of schools signing up to the model;
- (2) the delivery of kitchen planned preventative maintenance and responsive repairs be insourced for September 2020 subject to sufficient numbers of school signing up to the catering model;
- (3) the current catering contract be extended on the existing terms and conditions with Chartwells for 3 months until July 2020 at a stated maximum cost in order to allow time for the insource model to be implemented and mobilisation to take place over the summer holidays;
- (4) the current kitchen maintenance contract be extended on the existing terms and conditions with Thermoserv for 3 months until July 2020 at a stated maximum cost in order to allow time for the insource model to be implemented and mobilisation to take place over the summer holidays.

194. Ladywell Playtower Part 2

This item was considered in conjunction with the Part 1 report on the same subject.

195. Early Help Support Services Review and Permission

This report was accepted as late and urgent because of late clarification of a number of key aspects of the report and is urgent because the contracts run out at the end of March 2020 and the organisations require notice to retain staff and continue to provide services.

Having considered a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Mayor, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 8-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) there be an extension of the contract for Family Support delivered by Core Assets Group Ltd for a period of 12 month, from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/21 at a stated cost;

(2) there be an extension of the three contracts for Lewisham Children and Family Centres for a period of 12 months from 01/04/2020 until 31/03/2021 delivered by:

- Early Years Alliance at a stated maximum cost;
- Dowderry School at a stated cost and
- Kelvin Grove School and Eliot Bank School at a stated cost

(3) there be an extension of the contract for the Young People's Health and Wellbeing Service delivered by Compass for a period of 12 months, from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021 at a total stated maximum cost with the LBL contribution being fixed at a stated sum. Should Lewisham CCG confirm additional funding is available to the service following their budget setting process this will be at a stated maximum figure, bringing the total contract value to a stated adjusted figure;

(4) the extension of the current contract for Health Visiting delivered by Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust be approved for a period of 2 years months, from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2022 at a stated total maximum cost recognising that there is a proposal of a cut of £154,058 to the Health Visiting budget for 20/21. And should this proposed cut be agreed, the value of the extension would be an amended total figure; and

(5) the extension of the contract between the Council and Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust be approved for two years from 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2022 for the provision of the School Health Service at a stated total contract value over the two year extension period; and

(6) the variation to the contract between the Council and Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust for the provision of Health Visiting to include the provision of the School Health Service for two years from 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2022 be approved a total stated value of the variation over the two

year period.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm