

# Public Document Pack

## MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 15 January 2014 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Councillors Chris Best, Janet Daby, Damien Egan, Helen Klier, Paul Maslin, Joan Millbank, Alan Smith and Susan Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Crada Onuegbu.

### 14. Declaration of interests

There were none.

### 15. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on December 18 2013 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### 16. Matters Raised by Scrutiny

1) Savings Proposals 2014-15 and 2015-16 – CU07 The Call Point Service

The Mayor received written notice of a call-in agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel and decided to defer further consideration until the February 12 meeting.

RESOLVED that consideration of Saving CU07 be deferred until February 12 and the remainder of the Savings Proposals 2014-15 and 2015-16 be confirmed.

2) Savings Proposals 2014-15 and 2015-16 – CU03 Reduction of Recycling Collection Round and Vehicle (x1)

The Mayor accepted a written request from the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel in relation to the recycling service and asked that the Executive Director for Customer services prepare a response

RESOLVED that the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to report back on the issues raised.

### 17. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

The Mayor noted that one item from the Children & Young People Directorate had appeared ahead of schedule.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

### 18. Council Tax Base 2014-15

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that:

(i) a Council Tax Base of 73,941.2 Band D equivalent properties for 2014/15 be recommended to Council;
(ii) the Council Tax Base calculation for 2014/15, as set out in the annual Council Tax Base government return, be noted;
(iii) a budgeted Council Tax collection rate of 95.5% be recommended to Council;
(iv) the existing policy of a 0% discount for second homes for 2014/15 be recommended to Council;
(v) the existing policy of a 0% discount for empty homes – Class A (an empty property undergoing structural alteration or major repair to make it habitable) be recommended to Council;
(vi) the existing policy of a 100% discount awarded for a period of four weeks and then a 0% discount thereafter, for empty homes – Class C (a substantially empty and unfurnished property) be recommended to Council;
(vii) the existing policy of an empty homes premium of 50% in respect of long term empty properties be recommended to Council;
(viii) the proposed National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) estimated net yield of £45.964m, based on the NNDR mid-year forecast for 2013/14 be recommended to Council.

## 19. Business Growth Strategy

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that the Business Growth Strategy be approved.

## 20. Pay Policy Statement

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that the pay policy statement be recommended to the Council for approval.

## 21. Permanent Primary School places

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Helen Klier, who outlined the extreme pressures the

authority was facing in providing places for children in local primary schools. She explained that building works were scheduled to occur at 75% of the borough's primary schools in efforts to meet existing demands for places.

The Mayor considered the proposals for each school individually. Regarding Holbeach School he was informed by the Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative that should the proposal be agreed, a further consultation period would be advertised by public notice following which a planning application would have to be submitted. The Mayor was further informed a design for this listed building had not yet been agreed but would be drawn up during the next Public Notice consultation period.

The Mayor was addressed by Eileen O'Mahoney, representing the Friends of Holbeach Primary School. She recognised the LEA faced a major task in providing primary places but that she and her group wished to object to the proposals to expand Holbeach School on the grounds of a flawed consultation, which she felt lacked a proper feasibility study; on an inadequate report, which she felt did not fairly report the Friends objections and on the lack of detailed plans, including important elements such as risk assessments, timelines, costings and architects drawings.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative acknowledged that the current plans were not yet complete and said more detailed plans would be available for the next public consultation.

The Mayor responded to the representations by remarking on the extraordinary population growth that posed great challenges for primary place planning but also stating he had listened carefully to the concerns which had been expressed and while he was minded to proceed to the next stage, he would need to be convinced in any future report that he considered that the concerns raised had been properly addressed.

Having considered the officer report, and the presentations by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People and the representative of the Friends of Holbeach School, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that

(i) the responses to the consultations on proposals to enlarge Coopers Lane, Holbeach and John Ball Primary Schools be noted;
(ii) the publication of a statutory notice to enlarge Coopers Lane Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2014 be approved;
(iii) the publication of statutory notices to increase permanently the supply of primary school places from September 2015 be approved to enlarge Holbeach Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry and to enlarge John Ball Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry;
(iv) a consultation should commence on a proposal to enlarge Sir Francis Drake Primary School from 1 to 2 forms of entry with effect

**22. Appointment of Local Authority Governors**

Having considered information supplied in respect of the nominee proposed for appointment, and advice from the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Helen Klier, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that the following person be appointed as a Local Authority governor;

Ms. Gail Griffiths

Torridon Infants

**23. Management report**

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communication, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the Management Report be noted.

**24. Response to CYP and Safer Stronger Select Committees on Reshaping Youth Services**

Having considered an officer report, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the response to the comments and views of the Children and Young People Select Committee and the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee as set out be approved and reported to both Select Committees.

**25. Exclusion of Press and Public**

RESOLVED that 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 paragraphs 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:

Lewisham Gateway Update.

## **26. Lewisham Gateway Update**

Having considered a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that:

(i) the update to the progress of the Lewisham Gateway development be noted; and

(ii) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration & Asset Management and the Head of Law, to negotiate and agree the terms of any further amendments to the Development Agreement and Landowners Agreement and all associated legal documentation that may be necessary to secure the delivery of the Lewisham Gateway Development Scheme, including authority to agree the final terms of the Guarantee to be provided under the terms of the Development Agreement.

The meeting closed at 7.21pm