

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 7 December 2016 at 6.01 pm

PRESENT: Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Councillors Alan Smith, Councillor Chris Best, Kevin Bonavia, Janet Daby, Joe Dromey, Paul Maslin, Joan Millbank and Rachel Onikosi.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Damien Egan.

530. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

531. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on November 9 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

532. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

The Mayor responded to the Business Panel on two issues as follows:

Catford Regeneration Programme

(i) Business Panel noted officers had proposed a March deadline for the Masterplan roll out, and seek confirmation that this deadline is achievable.

The Mayor acknowledged the deadline was ambitious but officers were continuing to work towards it.

(ii) the Mayor be requested to ask officers to construct a timeline which would include programmed events and venues for community engagement with the Catford Regeneration Programme.

The Mayor said this request would be made to Officers.

(iii) the Mayor be requested to ask officers to ensure that the Broadway Theatre form a central part of any regeneration plan for the Catford Centre.

The Mayor stated the Broadway Theatre would form a focal point in any plans to regenerate Catford.

(iv) the Mayor be requested to ask officers to update the Sustainable Community Strategy because the current one is considerably dated.

The Mayor stated he believed the Strategy was not due to be renewed until 2020 but he would ask Officers to consider if an earlier review was necessary

(v) the Mayor be requested to ask officers to respond to an outstanding referral from the Sustainable Development Select Committee to Mayor and

Cabinet on the Catford Regeneration.

The Mayor was advised a proposed response would be considered by him on January 11 2017 and reported thereafter to the Select Committee.

Deptford Anchor

The Business Panel had agreed to request that the Mayor ask officers to return the Deptford Anchor to a suitable location in Deptford High Street, as requested by residents.

The following response was given:

Having been informed that discussions on relocation had been held with the Deptford Society, the Mayor agreed Officers would continue to work with the Deptford Society to see if the aspirations of residents could be met.

RESOLVED that these responses be reported to the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel.

533. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

534. Allocations Policy Review

Having considered an officer report, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the results of the consultation with residents and partners, as summarised, be noted;
- (2) the Equalities Analysis Assessment be noted;
- (3) the comments of Housing Select Committee as summarised, be noted;
- (4) the changes to the Allocations Scheme as set out, be approved;
- (5) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Customer Services to make any minor changes required before the revised Allocations Scheme is published.

535. Air Quality Action Plan

The report was presented by Councillor Rachel Onikosi who reported that a referral had been received from the Sustainable Development Select Committee and that she would ask the Executive Director for Community Services to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration.

The Mayor said efforts should be made in the New Year in conjunction with

the Mayor of London to get messages across to residents about activities being undertaken by the Council and the GLA to improve air quality in Lewisham.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for the Public Realm, Councillor Rachel Onikosi, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that

- (1) the draft AQAP (Appendix B), be approved; and
- (2) the Executive Director for Community Services be asked to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration to the recommendations made by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on 25 October 2016.

536. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017-18

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

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the outcomes of the consultation, as set out, be noted;
- (2) a local CTRS be retained from 1 April 2017 that passes on any reduction in government funding, reflecting the Council's financial position following the announcement of the Autumn Statement and the provisional Local Government Financial Settlement (LGFS) in December;
- (3) a means-test be introduced for employed, working-age UC recipients to ensure consistency of CTR awards within the scheme; and
- (4) additional support continues to be delivered to the most vulnerable residents through use of the existing provision within Section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Local Government Finance Act.

537. Planning Annual Monitoring Report

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

RESOLVED that:the content of the AMR 2015-16 be noted and publication and placement on the Council's website be approved.

538. Referral from Housing SC on handyperson service

The Mayor observed that given the information he had received to date he was not convinced a service reduction was justified and he found a referral requiring further consideration helpful.

Having considered the Select Committee's report, the Mayor,

RESOLVED that the views of the Select Committee as set out be received and the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration.

539. Treasury Management Mid-Year Update

The Mayor agreed to accept this late item. Officers had stated the report was not available for the original dispatch because of officers needing additional time to complete their review of the current Treasury Management performance and prepare the report. The report was urgent and could not wait until the next meeting of the Mayor & Cabinet on 11 January 2017 to comply with the requirement of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice and to enable Members to note the position of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy before considering the Treasury Management Strategy with the Council's budget in the New Year.

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

RESOLVED that:

(1) macro economic context, performance of investments to date, updates on capital expenditure and borrowing in line with CIPFA requirements and the Council's treasury management strategy be noted:

(2) changes to the Treasury Indicators and Limits in respect of the fixed interest rate borrowing to reflect the maturing structure of the existing borrowing portfolio be noted;

(3) officers be authorised to work to explore the options, as a non-specified investment, of pooled investment funds and residential mortgage backed securities for periods of greater than twelve months and that, if required, changes to non-specified investments in the Annual Investment Strategy be brought forward when the treasury strategy is reset with the budget in February 2017.

The meeting closed at 6.51pm