## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BUSINESS PANEL

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1. **Recommendation**

   To consider key decisions made by the Mayor and Cabinet on 23 March 2016 which will come in to force on 6 April 2016.

2. **Background**

   2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet considered the following key decisions on 23 March 2016:

   2.2 The notice of decisions made in respect of the reports are attached as an Appendix. Under the provisions of Standing Orders Part IV E 14, members may call in an executive decision within 7 days. If these reports are not called in they will come into force on 6 April 2016.

   (i) Ofsted Inspection of ‘Service for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers’ and the Lewisham Safeguarding Board.

   (ii) Endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership: ‘A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020’

   (iii) Housing Allocations Policy Review

   (iv) Brasted Close Housing Development

   (v) Phoenix Community Housing Development

   (vi) Draft Comprehensive Equality Scheme 2016-2020

   (vii) Deferred Payment Agreement Policy
The Mayor and Cabinet made the following decisions on 23 March 2016. These Decisions will become effective on 6 April 2016 unless called in by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel on 5 April 2016.

1. **Ofsted Inspection of ‘Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers’ and the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board**

   Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor agreed that:

   (1) the Inspection reports, findings and associated recommendations be noted;

   (2) the Lewisham Improvement plan be endorsed as a response to the inspection findings;

   (3) the associated LSCB Improvement plan be noted;

   (4) the views of the Children and Young People Select Committee as set out be received and a response for Mayoral consideration be prepared by the Executive Director for Children & Young People.

2. **Endorsement of Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership’s: ‘A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham 2015-2020’**

   Having considered an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for the Public Realm, Councillor Rachel Onikosi, the Mayor agreed that:

   (1) the ‘A Natural Renaissance for Lewisham’ document and the strategic
aspirations of the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership be endorsed; and

(2) the views of the Sustainable Development Select Committee as set out be received and a response for Mayoral consideration be prepared by the Executive Director for Customer Services.

3. **Housing Allocations Policy Review**

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor agreed that:

(1) the rationale for undertaking a review of the Allocations Policy be noted;

(2) the proposed changes as set out be noted;

(3) officers be asked to proceed to consult with residents and partners about the proposed changes;

(4) a full equality assessment analysis will be undertaken; and

(5) a report be brought back to Mayor and Cabinet later this year seeking approval for changes to the Allocation Policy in light of the outcome of the consultation and equality assessment analysis.

4. **Brasted Close Housing Development**

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor agreed that:

(1) having considered the responses to the statutory Section 105 consultation, the garage site on the Brasted Close estate shown on an attached plan be declared surplus to the Council’s requirements;

(2) officers work with the London Community Land Trust and Lewisham Citizens exclusively for a period of twelve months to seek to develop a fully affordable housing scheme for the site;

(3) officers provide a further report to Mayor and Cabinet to agree the disposal terms if a viable business case for pursuing the development can be finalised.

5. **Phoenix Community Housing Development**

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor agreed that:

(1) the on-going partnership work between the Council and Phoenix Community Housing to identify housing development opportunities in
the south of the borough, and to review potential mechanisms to fund those opportunities be noted;

(2) funding of £1.32m be provided from S106 funds to support the development at Forster House;

(3) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to finalise the terms of the funding agreement;

(4) Officers review options for the longer term funding of housing development by Phoenix Community Housing and report these back to Mayor and Cabinet.

6. Draft Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016 – 2020

Having considered an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for the Third Sector, Councillor Joan Millbank, the Mayor agreed that:

(i) the draft equality objectives for the next four years be approved; and

(ii) the Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20 be approved.

7. Deferred Payment Agreement Policy

Having considered an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Health, Well Being & Older People, Councillor Chris Best, the Mayor agreed that:

(1) the Council’s proposed universal deferred payments scheme under the Care Act 2014 as set out for new deferred payment agreements entered into by the Council be approved;

(2) the maximum interest rate allowed by the Department of Health be used;

(3) charges for deferred payment agreements be as set out;

(4) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Community Services, in consultation with the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration and Head of Law, to agree the more detailed guidance and procedures for the operation of the scheme.

Barry Quirk
Chief Executive
Lewisham Town Hall
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24 March 2016