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MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 15 February 2017 at 6.00 pm

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Amanda De Ryk and Councillor Alan Hall.

575. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

576. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

Animal Welfare Charter

A referral was presented by Councillor Alan Hall, the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel, who reported the Panel had received a very interesting presentation from officers in the Customer Services Directorate who were to be commended for their efforts.

Councillor Hall confirmed that following discussion at the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel on February 14, Panel Members welcomed the updated Charter, and agreed to make the following comments to Mayor and Cabinet:

i. The Business Panel believe that the fact that this policy was not reviewed for many years shows that the Council should have a policy tracking system in place to ensure timely and regular reviews of all policies.

The Mayor said given recent improvements to IT he would have a valid expectation to use technology to track policies

ii. Whilst welcoming the new Animal Welfare policy the Business Panel would like officers to explore signing up Council partners, particularly Lewisham Homes and RSL.

The Mayor said it made perfect sense to contact other landlords and he thanked officers for the work done so far in promoting the Animal Welfare Charter.

577. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

The Mayor noted the Housing Action Zones response was now scheduled for March.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

578. Referral Voluntary Sector Review

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 Community Services be asked to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration.

579. 2017/18 Budget Update

Councillor Bonavia reported that he had hoped this would be the final update but a further update was possible following the confirmation of the Local Government Finance Settlement on February 22.

Councillor Bonavia pointed out the Q11 Revenue Budget Saving was now brought back for confirmation. He added the GLA precept had been confirmed as rising by 1.5% and a Lewisham Council Tax rise of 4.99% was being proposed.

The Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration's representative confirmed no feedback had been received from the Business Rates consultation and the Section 151 Officer was now happy to endorse the Budget.

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) Council be recommended to agree a Band D Council Tax for 2017/18 of £1,157.68 for the Council's element. This is an increase of 4.99% (including a social care precept of 3%), based on a General Fund Budget Requirement of £232.746m for 2017/18;

(2) Council be asked to note an overall increase in the total Council Tax for 2017/18 of 4.28% to include the Greater London Authority (GLA) precept being increased by £4.02 to £280.02 (Band D equivalent), a 1.46% increase from its 2016/17 level as proposed;

(3) Council be recommended to agree on 22 February 2017, the statutory calculation of the Budget Requirement for Lewisham for 2017/18, attached at Appendix A;

(4) Council be recommended to agree on 22 February 2017, the motion on the budget, attached at Appendix B, including modifications made to the proposals published in the 2017/18 Budget Report;

(5) the provisional and estimated precept and levies from the GLA and other bodies as detailed in Appendix C be noted and authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to include any changes to these in the report for Council;

(6) the final settlement figure for 2017/18 is yet to be announced, and is now

expected in the week commencing the 20 February;

(7) there were no responses from Business rate payers to the consultation on the draft Budget which took place from 20 January 2017 to 3 February 2017;

(8) the Section 25 Statement from the Chief Financial Officer, attached at Appendix D be received;

(9) the Q11 savings proposal in respect of Meliot Road, as attached at Appendix E, be approved.

580. Response to Sustainable Development SC on Air Quality Action Plan

The report was presented by Councillor Onikosi who said she was in agreement with the suggestions made by the Select Committee.

Councillor Smith highlighted an event being organised by the Ella Roberta Family Foundation, the details of which he would circulate to all Councillors.

In agreeing the response, the Mayor added this was an issue which deserved a raised profile and he would expect suggestions to highlight the issue to come forward in the coming year.

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

RESOLVED that the response prepared by the Executive Director for Community Services be approved and reported to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

581. Response to CYP SC Information advice and guidance

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

RESOLVED that the response prepared by the Executive Director for Children & Young People be approved and reported to the Children & Young People Select Committee.

582. Local Authority Governor Nomination

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

RESOLVED that the following person be nominated as a School Governor for the school shown.

Levin Wheller: Torridon Infants School

The meeting closed at 6.15pm