



Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel

Decisions made by Mayor and Cabinet

Date: 24 November 2020

Key decision: Yes

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Chief Executive / Head of Business and Committee

Outline and recommendations

Members are asked to consider decisions taken at a meeting of the Mayor and Cabinet held on 11 November 2020 in open session

1. Recommendation

To consider decisions taken by the Mayor on 11 November 2020, which will come in to force on 25 November 2020 unless called in by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel on 24 November 2020.

2. Background

2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet considered the following decisions on 11 November 2020:

- i. Sanctuary Strategy
- ii. Housing Strategy and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy
- iii. Lewisham Housing Allocations Policy Review
- iv. Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2020-21
- v. Financial Monitoring
- vi. Amending Lewisham Homes Articles of Association
- vii. Revised Statement of Licensing Policy
- viii. Renewal of Pension Administration IT system
- ix. Acquisition of Sydney Arms to use as Temporary Accommodation

2.2 The notice of the decision in respect of this report is attached below.

2.3 Under the provisions of Standing Orders Part IV E 14, Members may call in an executive decision within 7 days. If this report is not called in, the decisions will come into force on 25 November 2020.



NOTICE OF DECISIONS MADE BY THE MAYOR & CABINET

The Mayor and Cabinet made the following decisions on November 11 2020. All recommendations shown were agreed by a 10-0 vote of voting members in attendance.

The decisions will become effective on November 25 2020 unless called in by the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel on November 24 2020.

1. Sanctuary Strategy

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees and Accountability, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, and by the Chief Executive of the Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network, Rosario Guimba-Stewart, and by a resettled family member, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

- (1) the context for the development of a corporate strategy on sanctuary be noted;
- (2) the proposed strategy and the action planning framework it governs be noted; and
- (3) the strategy and associated framework be approved.

2. Housing Strategy and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that Mayor and Cabinet be asked to agree the final strategies for immediate publication.

3. Lewisham Housing Allocations Policy Review

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that a 12 week public consultation on the proposed changes to the Allocations Policy be approved, as set out below, summarised in section 9 , and detailed in Appendix A, to consult on:

- (a) changes to the banding structure
- (b) changes to band allocation for several primary rehousing reasons
- (c) introducing a new 'smart letting' approach to maximise the number of properties available to let
- (d) reducing the 'three offer' rule to 'two offer' rule
- (e) updating the bidding process
- (f) reviewing how large properties are let
- (g) delegating powers

4. Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2020-21

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

(1) the Council's 2020/21 Investment Strategy be changed to exclude the UK from the minimum sovereign rating requirement of AA-; and

(2) the report be noted, in particular the macroeconomic updates, performance of investments to date, updates on capital expenditure and borrowing in line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) prudential indicators, and compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy.

5. Financial Monitoring

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

(1) the current financial forecasts for the year ending 31 March 2021 be noted and Executive Directors be requested to complete detailed action plans to manage down budget pressures within their directorates; and

(2) the proposed revision of the capital programme budget be noted, as set out in section 14, with further detail attached at appendices 3 and 4.

6. Amending Lewisham Homes Articles of Association

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that the changes outlined to Lewisham Homes Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association be approved.

7. Revised Statement of Licensing Policy

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Councillor Brenda Dacres, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

- (1) the revisions to the Statement of Licensing Policy be noted;
- (2) the revised Statement of Licensing Policy for 2020-2025 be presented to Council for it to be formally determined and published.

8. Renewal of Pension Administration IT system

Having considered an open and a closed officer report, and a presentation by Cabinet Member for Democracy, Refugees and Accountability, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

- (1) the uptake of the optional hosted Member Self Service functionality to enhance the service provision of the Pensions Team and the Core Pensions Software be approved;
- (2) the award of contract to heywood Ltd (t/a Aquilla Heywood) as the successful supplier following the competitive tender for a period of 10 years at a fixed and total cost of £1,296,221 be approved;
- (3) the confidential Section 5 – Completion of the Procurement Process be received; and
- (4) the confidential Section 6 – Financial Implications Financial Implications be received.

9. Acquisition of Sydney Arms to use as Temporary Accommodation

Having considered open and confidential officer reports, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed that:

- (1) the rationale for the proposed purchase of Sydney Arms, 122 Lewisham Road, SE13 7NL be noted;
- (2) the due diligence work already undertaken in relation to the proposed purchase of the Sydney Arms and the further due diligence work required to complete the business case be noted;
- (3) Agreement in principle to purchase the Sydney Arms, 122 Lewisham Road, SE13 7NL be approved;
- (4) the Council enter into contract with the GLA regarding the funding arrangement should satisfactory terms be agreed;
- (5) in the event that a contract agreement cannot be reached with the GLA, alternative options for purchasing the building be explored;

(6) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Public Realm in conjunction with the Director of Law, Governance & HR and Executive Director for Corporate Resources to proceed with the purchase and complete the acquisition of the Sydney Arms, 122 Lewisham Road, SE13 7NL once they are satisfied with the business case and that the purchase and subsequent refurbishment reflects value for money;

(7) in principle agreement to purchase the Sydney Arms, 122 Lewisham Road, SE13 7NL for not more than a stated sum plus a further sum for legal/surveying fees, SDLT and refurbishment work be approved;

(8) the three options for purchase that have been outlined, in order of preferred option be noted, where option 1 is to purchase and refurbish this block alongside grant funding from the GLA (comprised of a stated amount of capital funding), dependent on satisfactory agreement over the conditions of the funding arrangement; and

(9) in the event that a contract agreement cannot be reached with the GLA, options 2 or 3 are executed to purchase the building;

Kim Wright
Chief Executive,
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November 12 2020