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MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 9 December 2020 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Damien Egan (Mayor), Chris Best, Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, Brenda Dacres, Sophie McGeevor, Amanda De Ryk and Jonathan Slater.

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors Patrick Codd and Luke Sorba.

No apology for absence was received.

401. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning declared a pecuniary interest in relation to Item 5, "Early Help and Prevention Strategy and Commissioning Intentions", advising that his job role comes into conflict with policy relating to the award of provision to Youth First.

402. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of meeting of the Mayor and Cabinet held on 11 November 2020 be confirmed and agreed as a correct record.

403. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

Councillor Patrick Codd, Chair of the Public Select Committee, commented on the first round of proposed budget cuts, and highlighted views expressed by the other select committees on the matter. It was stated that Members of the select committees recognised the challenging financial situation facing the Council as a result of the Government's austerity agenda, and the complex task that officers had in identifying and delivering the budget cuts. However, the Members were interested about the impact on residents, staff and partnering agencies. The meeting noted that the Members were also concerned about the overall potential impact on service delivery. Councillor Codd stated that the select committees were therefore suggesting that prior to implementation, the Council should consider outcomes from the Equality Impact Assessment, and undertake a community engagement exercise so that residents become aware of the budget cuts, and why they had been proposed.

Having considered comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee of 3 December 2020, which incorporates views of the other select committees,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

- (1) That comments and views of the Council's select committees be noted.

- (2) That an officer report responding to each of the points made by the Council's select committees and circulated to the respective chairs prior to the meeting, be sent to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

404. Budget Cuts Proposal 2020/21

Mayor Damien Egan introduced the report, highlighting the financial constrain faced by local authorities and their partners as a result of a decade of the Government's austerity agenda, and the need to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic. Mayor Egan stated that Council would continue to campaign and lobby the Government for funding, in addition to providing the necessary returns with a view to recover costs associated with its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, outlined the Mayor's position in regard to the budget cuts proposed 2020/21, echoing comments about the Government's austerity measures, and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council's finances. Councillor De Ryk stated that the proposed budget cuts were not related to budget setting for the financial year, but were formulated to enable officers proceed to the next stage of the decision-making process. Councillor De Ry confirmed that officers had adopted a strategic approach to respond to the financial challenge, and that the Local Government Financial Settlement announcements expected in the coming weeks would provide clarity in regard to the amount of shortfall the Council would face for 2021/22.

Councillor Paul Bell, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning, thanked Councillor De Ryk for leading a thorough process whereby Members had an opportunity to review and comment on the budget cuts proposal. In light of the specific recommendations in section 3 of the report, and the summary of the proposed outlined in section 8, and noting the scrutiny comments from the Public Accounts Select Committee, Councillor Bell proposed the following:

- (1) In regard to proposals relating to Productivity detailed in Appendix 2:
 - (a) That the Council consult on cuts reference **A-2** to return to Mayor & Cabinet for a decision;
 - (b) That cuts references **A-1, A-3, and A-4 to A-8 inclusive** to go forward, along with the second round of cuts proposals expected in January, to the next stage of the budget preparation process for February 2021.
- (2) In regard to proposals relating to Joint Working detailed in Appendix 3:
 - (a) That the Council consult on cuts references **B-6 and B-10** to return to Mayor & Cabinet for a decision;
 - (b) That cuts references **B-2, B-4, B-5, and B-7 to B-9 inclusive** to go forward to the next stage of the budget preparation process.
- (3) In regard to proposals relating to Service Reconfiguration detailed in Appendix 4:
 - (a) That the Council consult on cut reference **C-2** to return to Mayor & Cabinet for a decision;
 - (b) That the Council consult on cut reference **C-1** and delegate this decision to the relevant Executive Director;

- (c) That cuts references **C-3, C-5, C-7 and C-8** to go forward to the next stage of the budget preparation process.
- (4) In regard to proposals relating to Asset Realisation detailed in Appendix 5:
 - (a) That the Council consult on cuts references **D-1** and **D-7** to return to Mayor & Cabinet for a decision
 - (b) That cuts references **D-2 to D-6 inclusive and D-8** to go forward to the next stage of the budget preparation process.
- (5) In regard to proposals relating to our Commercial Approach detailed in Appendix 6:
 - (a) That cuts references **E-1 to E-10** inclusive to go forward to the next stage of the budget preparation process.
- (6) There are proposals relating to Demand Management detailed in Appendix 7:
 - (a) That both the comments of the select committees and the officer's response to these be noted;
 - (b) That the Council consult on cuts references **F-7, F-8, F-9, F-15, F-16, F-17 and F-18** to return to Mayor & Cabinet for a decision;
 - (c) That the Council consult on cut reference **F-11** and delegate the decision to the relevant Executive Director;
 - (d) That cuts references **F-1 to F-6 inclusive, F-10 and F-12** to go forward to the next stage of the budget preparation process.

Having considered an officer report, a presentation by Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, proposals by Councillor Paul Bell, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning, and comments by Councillor Patrick Codd, the Chair of Public Accounts Select Committee,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

- (1) That the proposals submitted by Councillor Paul Bell be agreed.
- (2) That progress with identifying budget cuts, the £18.9m shortfall against the target for 2021/22 be noted, and that these be brought back in February 2021 for consideration.
- (3) That it be agreed:
 - (i) To review the cuts proposals presented in Section 7 and Appendices 2 to 7, totalling £15.051m.
 - (ii) To consider the comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee of the 3 December 2020, which incorporates the views of the respective select committees.
 - (iii) To authorise officers to carry out consultations where staff consultation is necessary and delegate the decision to the relevant Executive Director for the service concerned for the following proposals: C-1 and F-11.
 - (iv) To authorise officers to carry out consultations where public consultation is necessary ask officers to report back to the Mayor and

Cabinet with the outcome, for a decision to be made for the following proposals: A-2, B-6, B-10, C-2, D-1, D-7, F-9, F-15, F-16, F-17, and F-18.

- (4) That where no consultation is required, the following proposals be agreed: A-1, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8, B-2, B-4, B-5, B-7, B-8, B-9, C-3, C-5, C-7, C-8, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-6, D-8, E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5, E-6, E-7, E-8, E-9, E-10, F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-10 and F-12. Request officers to complete further work to clarify the proposals F-7 and F-8 and that officers then re-submit the proposals at the earliest opportunity for a decision.
- (5) That it be agreed to defer the decision on cuts references F-7 and F-8, and ask that further work is undertaken on these and that they are re-considered as part of the additional round 2 cuts for Adult Social Care expected to come forward in January.

405. Early Help and Prevention Strategy and Commissioning Intentions

Councillor Paul Bell declared a pecuniary interest in relation to this Item earlier on at the meeting, advising that his job role comes into conflict with policy relating to the award of provision to Youth First. Councillor Bell removed himself from the virtual meeting, and did not take part in the discussion or vote on the proposals.

Having considered an officer report, a presentation by Councillor Chris Barnham, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, and comments by Councillor Luke Sorba in his capacity as a Telegraph Hill ward councillor,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

That the strategy attached as Appendix 1 be approved:

- (1) For the provision of Children's Centres services:
 - (i) to extend and vary the current contract with Pre School Learning Alliance (known as Early Years Alliance) from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22 at a maximum cost of £1.25m;
 - (ii) to extend and vary the current contract with Donderry School from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22 at a maximum cost of £190,000;
 - (iii) to extend and vary the current contract with Eliot Bank and Kelvin Grove from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22 at a cost of £170,000.
- (2) For the provision of Youth Services in Lewisham:
 - (i) that the Council uses available resources more flexibly to develop a borough wide targeted youth work offer, which will be delivered by a wider range of youth organisations across the borough, including the Council itself through Family Thrive; and accordingly:
 - (a) award a contract for youth services to Youth First for four years, from 01/04/21 to 31/04/25 with an option to extend by up to two years at a cost of £1.3m per annum, and £7.8m for the full six year term
 - (b) extend the current liability arrangements relating to pensions,

as set out in paragraph 6.33 of this report, for the life of the contract

- (c) offer the contract with renewed lease arrangements, providing Youth First with 10 year leases at a peppercorn rent for at least two Youth sites in the borough, with the final decision on these sites and lease arrangements being delegated to the Executive Director for Children and Young People in consultation with the Director for Regeneration and Place and the Director of Law, Governance & Human Resources.

(3) For the provision of Health services:

- (i) to extend and vary the current contract with Compass to deliver the Young People's Health and Wellbeing Service for 12 months from 1st April 2021 until 31st March 2022, at a value of £746,000. The LBL contribution is £552,000.

406. Local Development Scheme Update

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Local Development Scheme (December 2020) be approved for formal adoption and publication, taking effect 21st December 2020.

407. Consultation on Changes to the Statement of Community Involvement (non-COVID changes)

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Addendum to the Statement of Community Involvement, which will permanently supersede sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 and appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the current SCI (2006), be adopted.

408. Extension of Refuse Recycling Agreement' with South East London Combined Heat & Power Ltd (SELCHP)

Having considered both an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, Councillor Sophie McGeevor,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Refuse Recycling Agreement with South East London Combined Heat & Power Ltd (SELCHP) be extended for 5 years from 2nd January 2024, the detailed terms to be set out in a Deed of Variation to the Refuse Recycling Agreement and associated agreements and documents.

- (2) That authority be delegated to the Director for the Public Realm to take the decision about the final terms of the Deed of Variation to the Refuse Recycling Agreement and associated agreements and documents, in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance and Human Resources, and the Director of Corporate Resources.

409. Somerville Estate Redevelopment

Having considered both an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell,

The Mayor and Cabinet unanimously RESOLVED:

- (1) That allocation of stated funding from the Housing Revenue Account for Lewisham Homes to appoint a contractor to deliver construction works for 23 new homes at Wellington Close, Somerville Estate be approved.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Public Realm to approve final accounts and cost variations following practical completion and the defects liability period.

410. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED 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 paragraph 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 relating to:

- 11 Extension of Refuse Recycling Agreement' with South East London Combined Heat & Power Ltd (SELCHP) - part 2.
12. Somerville Estate Redevelopment – part 2.

411. Extension of Refuse Recycling Agreement' with South East London Combined Heat & Power Ltd (SELCHP)

The proposals were considered in conjunction with the part 1 item.

412. Somerville Estate Redevelopment

The proposals were considered in conjunction with the part 1 item.