

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 10 February 2021 at 6.00 pm

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Bill Brown.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joani Reid.

433. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

434. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

Response to the Children & Young People Select Committee - children in temporary accommodation and 6 month update

The report was presented by Councillor Barnham who was joined by Councillor Bell in thanking the Select Committee for the vital work they had done on this issue.

Having considered an open officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, the Mayor and Cabinet:

RESOLVED that the response be approved and reported to the Select Committee.

435. 2021-2022 Budget Update

The report was presented by Councillor De Ryk who confirmed that there would be a maximum Council Tax increase of 4.99%. She added that since the Budget had last been considered, the Council had received the welcome news that it had made a successful application to bid for S31 grant funding of up to £3.2m from the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Mayor and Cabinet, the proposals were subject to a recorded vote under the provisions of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, with the following result:

In favour of the recommendations – 9

Mayor Egan, Councillors Barnham, Bell, Best, Bonavia, Dacres, McGeevor,

De Ryk, & Slater.

Against the recommendations – nil

Abstaining on the recommendations – nil

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the changes to the 2021/22 to 2023/24 Capital programme be noted and Council be recommended to approve the 2021/22 to 2023/24 Capital Programme of £556.3m, as set out in section 5 and Appendix A;
- (2) Council be recommended to approve a Band D Council Tax for 2021/22 of £1,379.96 for the Council's element, an increase of 4.99% (including a social care precept of 3%), based on a General Fund Budget Requirement of £243.100m for 2021/22;
- (3) Council be asked to note the Greater London Authority (GLA) precept being increased by £31.59 to £363.66 (Band D equivalent), a 9.5% increase from its 2020/21 level;
- (4) Council be asked to approve an overall total Band D Council Tax for 2021/22 of £1,743.62, a 5.91% increase, to include the GLA precept;
- (5) Council be recommended to approve on 3 March 2021, the statutory calculation of the Budget Requirement for Lewisham for 2021/22, as at Appendix B;
- (6) Council be recommended to approve on 3 March 2021, the motion on the budget, as at Appendix C, including any modifications made to the proposals published in the 2021/22 Budget Report;
- (7) the provisional and estimated precept and levies from the GLA and other bodies as detailed in Appendix D be noted and authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Corporate Resources to include any changes to these in the report for Council;
- (8) the final settlement figure for 2021/22 is being debated in parliament on 10 February and authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Corporate Resources to include any change to the provisional settlement of £123,304,020 in the report for Council with any difference covered from provisions and reserves as necessary;
- (9) there was no response from Business Rate payers to the consultation on the draft Budget which took place from 11 January 2021 to 1 February 2021. With further information as provided in section 5;
- (10) the revised 2021/22 to 2023/24 prudential borrowing numbers be noted as laid out in tables six to eight;
- (11) the Section 25 Statement from the Chief Finance Officer be endorsed as

attached at Appendix E;

(12) the work being undertaken with respect of cut proposal C-22 be noted with a further report to return to Mayor and Cabinet;

(13) the Council's application to bid for S31 grant funding of up to £3.2m from the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme be approved; and

(14) Authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Public Realm the procurement and delivery of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme works in consultation with the Executive Director for Corporate Resources for the inclusion of this within the capital programme for 2021/22.

436. Modern Slavery Statement 2021

The report was presented by Councillor Dacres who stated that should worldwide ILO figures be extrapolated for Lewisham there could be up to 700 cases prevalent. The Mayor said he found this figure alarming and he urged the public to report any behaviour they thought suspicious.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Councillor Brenda Dacres, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report:by a vote of 9-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the potential impact of the adoption of Lewisham's Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for 2021-2022 on current and future arrangements, including with partners as set out be noted; and

(2) the Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for 2021-2022 be approved.

437. Lewisham Homes for Next Steps Accommodation Programme

The report was presented by Councillor Bell who praised the Director of Housing and her staff for moving so rapidly on a project which secured accommodation for the homeless. He believed such projects were the very ethos of the Council and displayed a core humanity.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 9-0

RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and Public Realm, in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance & HR, to grant a lease of the Sydney Arms to Lewisham Homes Limited should this be required and to agree the final terms of the lease and all associated documentation.

438. Lewisham Determined Admissions Arrangements

The report was presented by Councillor Barnham who said the Pan London arrangements continued to operate successfully and that he was particularly pleased to say there was growing parental confidence in Lewisham's Primary and Secondary offers.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, Councillor Chris Barnham, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 9-0:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The admissions arrangements for mainstream community nursery, primary, secondary schools and sixth forms be approved as set out in Appendix A to G.
- (2) The Published Admissions Number (PAN) for each community mainstream school in the borough as detailed in Appendix H including the reductions to the PAN for Lucas Vale, Sir Francis Drake Primary schools and Forest Hill School be approved; and
- (3) The pan London Admissions Schemes for reception and secondary transfer and a local scheme for in year admissions as detailed in Appendix I be approved.

439. Highways and Traffic Works Partnering Contract

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, Councillor Sophie McGeevor, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report by a vote of 9-0:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the strategy for highway service delivery via works contracts as set out be approved;
- (2) the current Highways Maintenance & Planned Works procurement exercise be ceased;
- (3) a one year extension of the current Highways Maintenance & Planned Works, to March 2022 be approved to align the end date with the Highways Footway works Contract (*Footway works*) and the Highways Resurfacing Works Contract (*Carriageway Works*) at a cost of £2.8 million; and
- (4) a new procurement of a new consolidated Highways Works Partnering Contract be approved for a period of 8 years, with the option to extend for a further 2 years.

The meeting closed at 6.29pm

