LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST
MINUTES OF THE CABINET

10 October 2017 at 2.00 pm

PRESENT:
Chair: Councillor Clare Coghill Council Leader

Cabinet Members:
Councillor Clyde Loakes Deputy Leader
Councillor Liaquat Ali MBE JP Portfolio Lead Member for Transformation and Commercial Operations
Councillor Naheed Asghar Portfolio Lead Member for Health and Voluntary Sector Partnerships
Councillor Angie Bean Portfolio Lead Member for Adult Services
Councillor Ahsan Khan Portfolio Lead Member for Libraries Arts and Culture
Councillor Khevyn Limbajee Portfolio Lead Member for Housing
Councillor Simon Miller Portfolio Lead Member for Economic Growth and High Streets
Councillor Sharon Waldron Portfolio Lead Member for Community Safety and Cohesion
Councillor Grace Williams Portfolio Lead Member for Children and Young People

Junior Cabinet Members
Councillor Alistair Strathern Junior Cabinet Member - Transport
Councillor Louise Mitchell Junior Cabinet Member - Social Integration

(Junior Cabinet Members are appointed by the Leader to assist Cabinet in proposing, formulating and advising upon Council policy under the guidance of the appropriate Portfolio Holder. These Councillors are not Members of the Cabinet and do not have any voting rights nor decision-making powers.)

Councillors in Attendance: Councillor Marie Pye, Councillor Richard Sweden

Officers in Attendance:
Rhona Cadenhead Strategic Director, Corporate Development
Marcus Chrysostomou Interim Head of Media
Martin Esom Chief Executive
Mark Hynes Director of Governance and Law
Rushena Miah Democratic Services Officer
37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence from Cabinet Members.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39. MINUTES OF CABINET

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2017 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

40. ADULT SOCIAL CARE THEMED REVIEW REPORT

Councillor Richard Sweden, Chair of the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee, introduced the item. Councillor Sweden said the report was written in the context of demographic pressures and a squeeze on resources for Adult Social Care services. He highlighted that Adult Social Care is an important area of work and this should be reflected in the rate of pay of professionals who work in this field.

Councillor Angie Bean, Portfolio Lead Member for Adult Social Care, summarised the report of the Policy Scrutiny Officer and asked Cabinet to accept the recommendations.

Decision

(a) Cabinet noted the content of the report and agreed to adopt officer recommendations 2, 4 and 7 and amend recommendations 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8 as outlined in appendix 2 of the report.

41. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY THEMED REVIEW

Councillor Marie Pye, Chair of the Children and Families Scrutiny Committee, introduced the item. Councillor Pye informed Cabinet that scrutiny Members had worked with the Youth Independent Advisory Group (YIAG) to inform the Committee’s recommendations. She advocated for the restoration of the Youth Council and a shadowing scheme in the borough, if suitable funding could be identified.

Councillor Grace Williams, Cabinet Lead Portfolio Member for Children and Young People, presented the report of the Policy Scrutiny Officer. She welcomed the review
and said she was pleased to see the level of engagement with young people and looked forward to working with them in the future to shape services.

Councillor Sharon Waldron, Cabinet Portfolio Lead for Community Safety and Cohesion, added that she was impressed with the YIAG after attending a Safer Neighbourhood Board and said they were keen to work on future projects with the Council.

Councillor Khevyn Limbajee echoed the praises of the YIAG and said they were instrumental in the success of the Housing Summit event.

Decision

(a) Cabinet noted the content of the report and agreed to adopt all recommendations as outlined in appendix 2 of the report.

42. CREATION OF A STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING FUNCTION 2017

Councillor Naheed Asghar presented the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, she summarised that the report outlines the Council’s and Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group’s commitment to a new model of integrated care and asked Cabinet to note the report.

Decision

(a) Cabinet noted the progress made towards developing an Accountable Care System and, in particular, the intention to establish an Integrated Strategic Commissioning Function.

(b) Cabinet noted that Officers from the Council and CCG plan to undertake a significant programme of work over the next six months, with the aim of formally establishing an Integrated Strategic Commissioning Function by April 2018.

(c) Cabinet noted that further reports on the creation of the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Function will be brought forward as and when key decisions are required.

43. UPDATE ON HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE BID

Councillor Simon Miller, Portfolio Lead Member for Economic Growth and High Streets, presented the report of the Head of Strategic Regeneration. He said the Department for Communities and Local Government funding has enabled the Council to bid for upgrades to Walthamstow Central Station and Leyton Station. The bids will request match funding of £10 million towards Walthamstow Central Station and £6 million towards Leyton Station.

The Chair thanked Councillor Miller and Councillor Loakes for their work on this bid.
Decision

(a) Cabinet noted the contents of this update report.

(b) Cabinet noted that a further report will be brought to Cabinet in due course relating to the progress of the proposed improvements, the funding and governance arrangements and specific requests for the Council to agree to make match-funding contributions.

44. CONSULTATION ON TRUMPINGTON ROAD

The Chair invited Councillor Sweden to comment on the report because it had been discussed at the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee prior to coming to Cabinet. Councillor Sweden briefly summarised the key points of discussion raised at the Committee which included a desire to know what would become of the site and a recommendation to delegate the decision arising from consultation, to Cabinet as opposed to the Deputy Chief Executive.

Councillor Angie Bean, Portfolio Lead Member for Adult Services, explained that the Home on Trumpington Road was underutilised and asked Cabinet for approval to initiate a consultation on the closure of the facility.

The Chair said she had visited the site and agreed with the process of consultation as set out in the report.

Decision

(a) Cabinet agreed to initiate a consultation on the proposal to close Trumpington Road.

(b) Cabinet noted that a report summarising the outcome of the consultation and recommendations regarding the future of Trumpington Road will be brought back to Cabinet for a decision.

45. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2018-2023

The Chair presented the report of the Director of Finance. She said that the report was comprehensive in describing the Council’s financial position.

Decision

(a) Cabinet noted the revised assumptions contained in the Medium Term Financial Strategy in appendix 1 of the report.

46. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Chair presented the report of the Head of Corporate Accountancy. She asked Cabinet to approve the recommendations as outlined in the report.
Decision

Cabinet:

(a) Noted that the projected revenue expenditure position is break even as of month five.

(b) Approved a base budget adjustment of £979,000 for Property and Asset Management to be funded from central contingency.

(c) Approved the capitalisation of equipment of £778,000 for the Feel Good Centre.

(d) Approved an allocation of £2 million to be set aside from the Budget Strategy Reserve to establish a Priorities Impact Fund for Lead Member’s priorities.

(e) Approved the allocation of £260,000 from the Priority Impact Fund for the pilot scheme to address fly-tipping occurring in town centres at night.

(f) Noted the Projected Reserves position at month 5, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

47. CONSTRUCTION OF A NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Councillor Simon Miller, Portfolio Lead Member for Economic Growth and High Streets, presented the report of the Head of Business Growth Investment and Employment Regeneration. He summarised that the report contained an options appraisal on the future of the Construction Training Centre. Cabinet was asked to approve Option A as the preferred option and delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Growth to make the decision as outlined in the report.

Decision

Cabinet:

(a) Noted that the Management Agreement between the Council and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), through which the CITB provides construction training services at the Construction Training Centre at Cathall Road, will end on 31st July 2018.

(b) Agreed that the Council will continue the delivery of construction training services at the Construction Training Centre at Cathall Road, beyond 31st July 2018.

(c) Delegated authority to the Director of Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Strategic Director Finance and Governance and the Director for Law and Governance, to:
i. Develop the CTC into a holistic Built Environment and Construction Centre - including determination of the ‘Operator Model’ to be used for the Centre - in order to expand the offer of the Centre and enhance the training provision.

ii. Determine any necessary interim arrangements for the continued delivery of construction services at the Construction Training Centre (CTC).

(d) Approved the carrying out of procurement process(es), if required, in accordance with European procurement rules and the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules, in order to identify and select provider(s) to operate the Centre and to award contract(s) to the successful tenderer(s).

(e) Noted the Council’s participation in discussions with the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC), other local authorities and private employers, with a view to the development of a Group Training Association (GTA) to deliver some aspects of construction training and apprenticeships at the enhanced CTC. A further report will be presented to Cabinet when detailed proposals for a GTA, including how a GTA might be delivered from the CTC, have been further developed.

(f) Delegated authority to the Director for Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Strategic Director Finance and Governance and in accordance with Financial Regulations, to submit bids, independently or jointly with the LLDC, for additional funding for the provision of construction training at the Cathall Road site from sources including the Mayor’s Construction Academy Scheme Fund.

48. HOUSING REPAIRS AND PLANNED WORKS CONTRACTS

Councillor Khevyn Limbajee, Portfolio Lead Member for Housing, presented the report of the Assistant Director of Housing. He explained that the report sought to extend the contract for Astons Group for a further four years and re-procure the Osborne contract. Maureen McEleney was thanked for her engagement work with residents and stakeholders.

Decision

Cabinet:

(a) Agreed to commence procurement by competitive tender for the Housing Repairs and Planned Works contracts for the Housing Service to select a partner or partners to provide general building works repairs and maintenance for day to day and planned works including voids from 1 April 2019.

(b) Agreed for the current contract with Aston Heating Limited for Mechanical and Electrical services be extended for a term of four years from 1 April 2019 subject to satisfactory terms for the extension being agreed within a three month period in accordance with the current contract including minor variations for service and contract improvements.
(c) Agreed that if the terms of the extension of the contract with Aston Heating Limited cannot be agreed in accordance with recommendation 2.1.2 of the report, then the contract for mechanical and electrical services will also be subject to a competitive procurement to select a partner or partners to provide these services.

(d) Delegated authority for the decisions on the scope of services to be provided through the future contract, or provided directly by the Council, and authority to award the contracts to the successful suppliers, to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead Member for Housing.

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm

Chair’s Signature

Date