

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET
MONDAY, 26 JUNE 2023**

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, HACKNEY TOWN HALL,
LONDON, E8 1EA

Councillors Present: **Mayor Philip Glanville in the Chair**

**Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble (Vice-Chair),
Cllr Robert Chapman, Cllr Mete Coban MBE,
Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas,
Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Cllr Guy Nicholson,
Cllr Carole Williams, Cllr Caroline Woodley,
Cllr Sem Moema and Cllr Sade Etti**

Apologies: **Cllr Clayeon McKenzie**

Officers in Attendance: **Mark Agnew, Governance Officer
Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal,
Democratic and Electoral Services**

1 Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr McKenzie. and apologies for lateness were received from Cllr Coban.

2 Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3 Urgent Unrestricted Business

3.1 There was no urgent business for consideration.

4 Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private, Any Representations Received and the Response to Such Representations

4.1 No representations were received.

5 Questions/Deputations

5.1 No questions were received.

6 Unrestricted Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Cabinet

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 22 May 2023 be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

7 **Unrestricted Minutes of Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet Procurement Insourcing Committee held on 2 May 2023 be noted.

8 **FCR S198 Capital Update and Property Disposals And Acquisitions Report**

8.1 The Mayor introduced the report and highlighted the safeguarding of Oswald Day Centre; the investment in continuing platforming capabilities and data analytics; the building access management system, which would safeguard buildings and staff and help to deliver Spacebank 2.0; and the start of the drawdown in relation to the successful Levelling-up bid.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the scheme for Adults, Health and Integration Directorate as set out in section 11 be given approval as follows:**

Oswald Street Day Centre Ventilation Project: Resource and spend approval of **£324k in 2023/24** is requested to install new mechanical ventilation fans to supply fresh air to the activity rooms and improve the energy efficiency of the building and to apply acoustic treatment to the existing kitchen fan.

2. **That the scheme for Finance and Corporate Resources Directorate as set out in section 11 be given approval as follows:**

Data Analytics Platform: Spend approval of **£405k (£127k in 2023/24, £208k in 2024/25 and £70k in 2025/26)** is requested to enable Council officers to continue further development of the Council's cloud-based data analytics platform.

Building Access Management System: Resource and spend approval of **£450k in 2023/24** is requested to enable Council Officers to proceed with the replacement of the borough's Building Access Management System with a fit for purpose solution that satisfies the Council's IT and Accommodation strategies.

3. **To approve the updated Small Assets Fast Track Policy as set out in section 12 and in Appendix 1.**

4. **That the schemes outlined in section 13 to be noted.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision were included in the printed decisions, published on the 27 June 2023 and can be [found here](#).

DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

None.

9 **FCR S197 2023/24 Overall Financial Position Report - March 2023**

- 9.1 The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Finance Insourcing and Customer Service, Cllr Chapman, who noted the General Fund provisional outturn of an overspend of £7.013m which, thanks to the work of members of Cabinet and Officers, was an improvement of £800k from February 2023.
- 9.2 Cllr Chapman also confirmed the acceptance of the £2.78m grant to deliver the Mayor of London's commitment to fund free school meals for primary school pupils.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To agree to accept the indicative grant allocation of £2,782,430 from the Greater London Authority for universal free school meals for the academic year 2023-24 and to enter into a grant agreement with the Greater London Authority in respect of such funding.**
- 2. To note the overall financial position of the Council as at March 2023 as set out in this report.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision were included in the printed decisions, published on the 27 June 2023 and can be [found here](#).

DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

This budget monitoring report is primarily an update on the Council's financial position. It also includes a proposal to accept £2.8m of grant funding from the GLA for the universal provision of free school meals in our maintained primary schools and academies. The alternative is not to accept this grant. This would mean missing out on this opportunity for universal free school meal provision in our schools for the duration of the grant.

10 CHE S164 Adoption of Green Infrastructure Strategy and Local Nature Recovery Plan

- 10.1 Introducing the report, the Cabinet Member for Families, Parks and Leisure, Cllr Woodley thanked residents, volunteer groups, Officers, and Cabinet colleagues for their work to help develop the strategy, and spoke to the efforts that were already underway that evidenced the commitment in Hackney to retaining and protecting the natural world. Cllr Woodley also drew attention to the impact from extreme weather and the category 1 pollution event in the River Lea had had on the borough's biodiversity work and river restoration and nature recovery work.
- 10.2 The Mayor and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport spoke in support of the new strategy and recovery plan.

RESOLVED:

- 1. Approve the final Green Infrastructure Strategy (GIS) attached as Appendix 1;**

2. **Approve the final Local Nature Recovery Plan (LNRP) attached as Appendix 2; and**
3. **Delegate authority to the Group Director for Climate, Homes and Economy to make any amendments to the Green Infrastructure Strategy (GIS) and Local Nature Recovery Plan (LNRP) as necessary.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision were included in the printed decisions, published on the 27 June 2023 and can be [found here](#).

DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do nothing was rejected as it goes against the Mayor's strategic priorities, alongside an earlier manifesto commitment to produce a Public Realm Infrastructure Plan as well as update the Biodiversity Action Plan. The preparation of a GIS was also referenced as part of the findings within the Local Plan evidence base for open space assessment.

An earlier option to produce a more defined delivery focused implementation plan for the public realm alone was rejected. It was felt that this would be too narrow and operational in focus and unlikely to reflect the need for a more strategic cross cutting approach that clearly articulates a vision and direction of travel for the Council and key partners.

In respect of the LNRP an earlier option was to update the Biodiversity Action Plan. This was discounted due to:

- Shortcomings noted with the earlier Biodiversity Action Plan which contained a very detailed set of conservation measures for priority habitats and species without clear ownership;
- The lack of its alignment with other strategic documents prepared by the Council.
- The need for a more pragmatic delivery focused approach, providing spatially specific actions and/or recommendations to enable and accelerate nature recovery.

Alternative recommendations for the GIS were also considered and either modified or rejected.

- A Council only focussed GIS - would not robustly make linkages with others to deliver a boroughwide multi partner response;
- Relying on separate policies and plans without an overarching approach was considered too fragmented and cross cutting benefits likely to be reduced.

11 CHE S223 Consultation on extending Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Dog Control

11.1 Cllr Fajana-Thomas, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Regulatory Services, confirmed that a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) was intended to deal with a particular form of nuisance, in a specific location, to

Monday 26 June 2023

allow members of the community to enjoy public spaces safe from antisocial behaviour. Recently reported antisocial behaviour associated with dogs had been increasing.

- 11.2 There had been a PSPO related to dog control in place in Hackney since 2017, which was due to expire in March 2024, so before any possible future decision on the PSPO the Council would ensure adequate time to consult.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet approves that a consultation exercise in relation to the renewing and varying the existing Public Spaces Protection Order which would place controls on dog fouling, dog exclusion, dogs on leads, dogs on leads where requested and on the maximum number of dogs that can be walked by one person is undertaken. A copy of the proposed Order is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision were included in the printed decisions, published on the 27 June 2023 and can be [found here](#).

DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not having a PSPO in place regarding dog control will have a detrimental impact on the Community Safety and Enforcement Officers to enforce dog-related nuisance across the borough. This may lead to increased dog fouling, dogs being a nuisance and not being adequately controlled, dogs entering children's play areas, sports areas and marked pitches.

Officers can enforce By-laws relating to Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces, which were first made in 1932, transferred to Hackney Council from The Greater London Council in 1971. The by-laws are outdated and hold a maximum penalty of £20, which is not a sufficient deterrent to those who would breach them.

This option would be contrary to the need for the PSPO and public support for the PSPO. It is also likely to result in the re-occurrence of the activities that are detrimental to the quality of life of people who live, visit or work in the borough.

An options analysis will be undertaken before any decision to renew the PSPO is taken, including for any additional controls included in the draft order. Cabinet will need to decide whether or not to renew the PSPO together with any proposed additional controls once the outcomes of the consultation are known and have been analysed.

12 Cabinet response to the joint Children & Young People and Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission Investigation into Housing Support for Care Leavers - For Noting

- 12.1 The Mayor, Deputy Mayor Bramble, and Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing Needs and Homelessness, Cllr Etti spoke in support of the response highlighting the work of Officers from Housing Needs and Children and Education, and thanked Scrutiny for their integral role in the Council's work.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet is asked to approve the Executive response, found in Appendix 1, to the Children and Young People and Living in Hackney joint Scrutiny Commission Review on Housing Support for Care Leavers.

REASONS FOR DECISION

Hackney Council is required to produce a response to the Children and Young People and Living in Hackney joint Scrutiny Commission Review on Housing Support for Care Leavers. The response draws on work underway and is in line with principles, values and priorities held by Hackney Council.

13 Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies - For Noting

RESOLVED:

- 1. Agree the appointment of the Councillors on behalf of the Council to Outside Bodies on behalf as listed at Appendix 1.**
- 2. Note the appointments made by the Mayor to Outside Bodies on behalf of the Council as listed in Appendix 1.**

14 Appointment of Local Authority Governors

RESOLVED:

- 1. Cabinet is recommended to approve the following nominations as set out below:**

Governing Body	Name	Date Effective
The Blossom Federation	James Ross	26 June 2023

15 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the Cabinet during consideration of Exempt items 15 - 16 on the agenda on the grounds that it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that were members of the public to be present, there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

16 New items of Exempt Urgent Business

- 16.1 There were no new exempt items for consideration.**

Duration of the meeting: 6.00 - 6.40 pm