

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET

MONDAY 18 JULY 2022

Councillors Present: Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble (Vice-Chair), in the Chair
Cllr Robert Chapman, Cllr Mete Coban,
Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas,
Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Cllr Clayeon McKenzie,
Cllr Guy Nicholson, Cllr Carole Williams,
Cllr Caroline Woodley, Cllr Sem Moema and
Cllr Sade Etti

Apologies: Mayor Philip Glanville and Councillor Yvonne Maxwell

Officers in Attendance: Jessica Feeney, Governance Services Officer
Juliet Babb, Legal Team Leader

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absense were received form Mayor Glanville and Councillor Maxwell.

Councill McKenzie joined the meeting virtually.

2 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

3 Declarations of interest - Members to declare as appropriate

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Notice of intention to conduct business in private, any representations received and the response to any such representations

There were none.

5 Questions/Deputations

Deputy Mayor Bramble explained that a deputation had been received from Rachel Mawby and Cathy Philpott on behalf of the Motorcycle Action Group. Cathy Philpott was invited to introduce the deputation.

Cathy Philpot introduced the deputation, it was stated that Hackney should urgently withdraw the Motorcycle parking permits review – summary and recommendations report’ and reassess the consultation in light of accurate evidence, and revisit decisions based upon it. Some examples of errors were highlighted:

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- "respondents felt motorcycles were better for the environment compared to cars, vans and lorries. However this is contradicted by research that shows that motorcycles contribute heavily to dangerous nitrous oxide (NO₂), and Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) pollutants on a par with vehicle counterparts."
- "Research also shows that motorcycles are proven to emit less CO₂, but much more harmful levels of nitrogen oxides than cars."
- "research has shown that motorcycles emit nitrogen oxide (NO₂) within the range of petrol and diesel cars."
- These statements are all false. Official National Statistics produced by BEIS and Defra show that PTWs produce around 70% less NO₂ and 50% less PM than cars on a per km basis. In addition, NO₂ is nitrogen dioxide not nitrous oxide or nitrogen oxide as referred to in the report.
- These errors appear to show a misunderstanding of the issue and are as a result of using inappropriate and unreliable research which vastly overstates PTW impact.

These errors are important for the following reasons:

- The February 2021 Cabinet decision on motorcycle parking permits was made on the basis of incorrect evidence .
- The errors themselves were fundamental to the decision and were used as a justification for the decision .
- The belief in this incorrect evidence led to officers dismissing the correct evidence when it was presented, as is seen in the report: "respondents felt motorcycles were better for the environment [...] this is contradicted by research [...]".
- The majority view of consultation respondents in opposing charging for PTWs was dismissed on the basis that a majority were also concerned about air quality. This logic was also based on the false belief that PTWs are more polluting than cars.
- The reliance on these errors has led to and is leading to incorrect decisions. The errors resulted in a disproportionate view of PTW impact on others, which was used to justify a disproportionate impact on PTWs.
- The council has a responsibility to make decisions that are evidenced based, fair and proportionate, and cannot make decisions based on flawed evidence.

Deputy Mayor Bramble invited Councillor Mete Coban to respond to the Deputation, in doing so the following key points were highlighted:

- Councillor Coban thanked Cathy for bringing this deputation.
- The important role that motorcycles, scooters and mopeds play in the Hackney economy was recognised, but it was also highlighted that all forms of vehicles, including motorbikes, produce emissions, and that a significant number of people commute into work in Hackney by motorbike each day.
- Hackney Council has been clear in its aim to avoid a vehicle-led recovery from Covid, and is committed to improving local air quality and tackling the climate emergency.
- As part of this commitment, and following a full public consultation in 2020, Cabinet agreed in February 2021 to place motorcycles on the same footing as all other vehicles, with permit prices based solely on the emissions they produce, as recorded by the DVLA.

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- These changes would allow businesses, delivery riders and other organisations that provide valuable services to continue to do so, while also discouraging the use of motorbikes for commuting, which contribute to local emissions.
- Councillor Coban understood the concerns raised over the paper submitted to Cabinet in February 2021, and was grateful for Cathy highlighting these. Officers have reviewed the comments you have made, and have agreed to correct the report, which will be re-published on our website.
- Nevertheless, the information that was presented to the public in the form of the consultation was accurate, Councillor Coban satisfied that the issues raised are of no material impact to the finalised proposals that were presented and approved at Cabinet in February 2021.

6 Unrestricted minutes of the previous meeting of Cabinet held on 27 June 2022

The unrestricted minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 27 June 2022, were approved.

7 Capital Update and Property Disposals And Acquisitions Report - Key Decision No. FCR S084

Deputy Mayor Bramble introduced the report on behalf of the Mayor.

RESOLVED:

- I. **That the schemes for Children and Education as set out in section 11 be given approval as follows:**

Final Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Allocation Capital Funding: Resource and spend approval of £416k in 2022/23 is requested for the allocation of the Department for Education (DfE) grant to individual schools maintained by Hackney Council for 2022/23.

Ann Tayler Children's Centre: Virement and spend approval of £850k (£50k in 2022/23, £780k in 2023/24 and £20k in 2024/25) is requested to fund the new roof replacement at this children's centre.

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

Millfields Waste Depot: Resource and spend approval of £65k in 2022/23 is requested to enable Council officers to start Phase 1 of the remedial works at this site.

- III. **That the scheme for Climate, Homes & Economy (Non-Housing) as set out in section 11 be given approval as follows:**

Cycle Hangers: Resource and spend approval of £2,835k (£70k in 2022/23, £945k in 2023/24, £945k in 2024/25, £875k in 2025/26) is requested to enable Council Officers to roll out a further 675 cycle hangers across the borough over 3 years, providing secure cycle parking for more than 4,000 bikes.

- IV. That the scheme outlined in section 12 be noted.
- V. To approve the disposal by leasehold interest of the basement, part ground, first, second and third floors of Keltan House for a term of 15 years (as shown edged in red for indicative purposes only on the plan in Appendix 1).
- VI. To approve the disposal by leasehold interest of 74 &75 Walrond House for a term of 15 years (as shown edged in red for indicative purposes only on the plan in Appendix 3).
- VII To authorise the Director of Legal Services to prepare, agree, settle and sign the necessary legal documentation to effect the proposed disposals and to enter into any other ancillary legal documentation required to complete the proposed disposal transactions.
- VIII To delegate authority to the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to enter into a lease of 15 years, and to agree all other terms of the lease, provided that the requirements of Section 123 Local Government Act 1972 are met.

Reasons for decision

The decisions required are necessary in order that the schemes within the Council's approved Capital programme can be delivered and to approve the property proposals as set out in this report.

In most cases, resources have already been allocated to the schemes as part of the budget setting exercise but spending approval is required in order for the scheme to proceed. Where, however, resources have not previously been allocated, resource approval is requested in this report.

To facilitate financial management and control of the Council's finances.

8 2021/22 Overall Financial Position Report - May 2022 - Key Decision No: FCR S083 - TO FOLLOW

Councillor Chapman introduced the report.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet:

- I. **Approved the proposed Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF) scheme as set out in Section 9**
- II. **Noted the update on the overall financial position for May covering the General Fund and HRA**

REASONS FOR DECISION

To facilitate financial management and control of the Council's finances and to implement the Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund proposal (section 9).

9 Acquisition of Local Space properties - Key Decision No: FCR S078

Deputy Mayor Bramble invited Councillor Etti to introduce the report. Councillor Etti outlined the report to the Cabinet.

Deputy Mayor Bramble invited Councillor Garbett to speak on the item, the following questions were raised:

1. Will Local Space be buying more homes *in the borough* with their proceeds from selling the 34 homes in phase 2 or elsewhere (as I know that their portfolio is across London)?
2. Why are the council purchases only restricted to homes on council estates (this is what I've understood 'owning the freehold' to mean) and would the same VfM restriction apply to long leasehold street properties not just flats?
3. Re costs, what is the distribution of sizes/bedrooms in these homes? As I know from the Dalston plan we need 3 / 4 beds (assume it's the same across the borough)
4. I also wanted to check why there is a the focus on former RTB where the council would own the freehold - you are probably aware but thought I'd check that the scope of the Right to Buy-Back fund covers more than just RTB and is more flexible and anything can be purchased perhaps this is being considered for a further phase?
5. Related to the above, are their plans for further phases?
6. The cover sheet states "Sustainability and climate change 6.9. None of the recommendations in this report would have a direct impact on the physical or social environment." - purchasing existing homes, rather than building is positive in terms of sustainability as will reduce embodied carbon from construction of new homes etc. Something the council should promote

Councillor Etti responded to each question, as set out below:

1. As set out in section 6 of the paper Local Space will be purchasing units out of borough with the proceeds of selling the phase 2 units.
2. The Paper does not itself propose a policy on the types of property that the Council should purchase. It does in Section 6.7 advise that the purchase of ex right to buy properties is an existing approved policy that this recommendation fits into. The general principle of acquisition is for estate based properties as there is minimal additional management and maintenance costs associated with the properties. As the properties recommended for purchase are in existing housing blocks, there is minimal additional management and (block) maintenance costs. There would be internal maintenance responsibility of these properties which can be funded through the rental income stream. If any freehold/street properties are purchased they are likely to have a much higher cost, reducing the number of homes that can be made available, and may well require additional management costs and borrowing costs. Any street properties would also require a full structural and condition survey and may incur further additional maintenance cost, as it will be a new property structure to maintain. Also the rent for houses are not significantly different to flats, therefore freehold/street properties would not be as cost effective to purchase

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and potentially would be a drain on the HRA business plan financial model which ultimately would reduce the resource available for investment in our housing stock.

3. The Nominations agreement sets out a service requirement for 2 and 3 bed properties. This is based on the sizes of property needed to re-house the existing residents.
4. The purchase of these properties is in line with approved policy. As set out in the "Acquisition of properties to support the delivery of affordable housing" policy approved by Cabinet in March 2020. The recommendation of the policy was to purchase ex RTB properties, including those owned by Housing Associations. The reason for the focus on ex RtB is as set out above - it represents a more cost effective acquisition for the HRA than non estate based properties. Any further flexibilities to the acquisitions policy would require separate Cabinet approval.
5. This second phase is currently expected to be the final phase of this work with Local Space.
6. The recommendation in this report for buy back of former Right To Buy properties is made in the context of the acquisitions policy referenced above and is primarily based on the financial considerations and maximising the homes that can be made available through the proposed scheme. The points raised about sustainability and embedded carbon is noted and will be shared with the Regeneration service for consideration. It is noted, however, that Hackney has a severe and increasingly acute shortage of all types of housing, including social housing, so new build development is still likely to be required to tackle the housing crisis.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet:

- I. **Authorised budget provision and spend of up to £4.25m from for the purchase of former Right-to-Buy properties in the market to support the increased supply of temporary accommodation available to the borough.**
- II. **Allocated the properties purchased for one time only nomination by Local Space as part of the agreed decant programme**
- III. **Gave delegated authority to the Director of Strategic Property Services, in consultation with the Group Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing and the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources, to negotiate final terms, conditions on the above purchases, including price and purchase of the property.**
- IV. **Authorised the Director of Legal and Governance Services to prepare, agree, settle and sign the necessary legal documentation to effect the proposals contained in this report and to enter into any other ancillary legal documentation as required.**

Reasons for decision

As outlined within the report, there is a significant need to expand the stock of social housing in Hackney.

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As set out within Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996, the Council has a statutory duty to provide interim temporary accommodation to homeless households to whom it has a duty to provide permanent housing.

By agreeing to purchase the 10 properties, we will not only immediately increase the number of affordable units in response to the increasing demand, but will potentially have access to more units of affordable settled accommodation for those currently within our temporary provision, freeing up this stock for a speeded up programme of Local Space re-provision properties.

10 Woodberry Down Principal Development Agreement updates - Key Decision No: CHE 112

Deputy Mayor Bramble introduced the report on behalf of the Mayor.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet:

- I. Authorised entering into a a Side Letter to the Woodberry Down Principal Development Agreement (Phases 2-8) with Berkeley Homes and Notting Hill Genesis.**
- II. Authorised**
 - (i) the variations to the Woodberry Down Development Compulsory Purchase Order Indemnity Agreement (as set out in Schedule 7 of the Principal Development Agreement) for Phase 4 with Berkeley Homes as set out in this Report; and**
 - (ii) entering into such Compulsory Purchase Order Indemnity Agreement on such terms as are agreed between the parties.**
- III. Delegated authority to the Group Director of Climate Homes and Economy and Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to agree to the market value purchase with vacant possession of leasehold properties in Phase 4 of the Woodberry Down regeneration, and the award of compensation to the leaseholders affected by the purchase.**
- IV. Authorised entering into the Fifth Deed of Variation to the Woodberry Down Principal Development Agreement (Phases 2-8).**
- V. Delegated authority to the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources in consultation with the Mayor to enter into the Block D Supplemental Agreement to the Woodberry Down Principal Development Agreement (Phases 2-8).**
- VI. Delegated authority to the Group Director of Climate Homes and Economy to approve any further necessary variations to the Principal Development Agreement (Phases 2-8).**
- VII. Authorised the Director of Legal Democratic and Electoral Services to prepare, agree, settle and sign the necessary legal documentation to effect the proposals contained in this report and to enter into any other**

Reasons for decision

Side Letter to the Principal Development Agreement

The Side Letter between Berkeley Homes and the Council will enable the regeneration of Woodberry Down to continue to progress in line with the target delivery programme, and will therefore ensure the delivery of much needed high quality homes.

The partners agree it is appropriate to carry out a review of the masterplan, which was approved in 2014, however there is not sufficient time to progress a hybrid application for Phases 4-8 without delaying the target start on site date for Phase 4. The Side Letter will therefore enable the partners to bring forward a standalone planning application for Phase 4, with a clear timetable and process in place for agreeing a revised masterplan.

The separation of Phase 4 from the masterplan will also allow more time to consult and develop the wider masterplan; work on which will commence once the Phase 4 application has been submitted.

The Side Letter sets out the process for agreeing a new masterplan including the key stages and target timetable for submission. The document is still in draft form, however further details on the principles of the legal agreement are included in exempt Appendix 1. As this agreement will be a Deed, Cabinet authority is sought for the Council to enter into it.

CPO Indemnity Agreement (Variation to the Agreed Form)

On 28 February 2022, as part of a wider report seeking authority to commence preparations to make a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for Phase 4, Cabinet approved the commencement of negotiations with leaseholders in Phase 4 to buy back their properties. The purchasing of leasehold properties is a critical step in achieving vacant possession, which is necessary to enable the redevelopment of Woodberry Down to progress.

The previous Cabinet Report set out that purchases and compensation would not be completed and paid until the Council had entered into a CPO Indemnity Agreement (CPOIA) with Berkeley Homes, to indemnify the Council against all of the costs involved in achieving vacant possession of the phase.

Under the terms of the PDA, the Council enters into a CPOIA further to planning consent being achieved and a successful (or waived) post-planning viability test (an agreed form of the CPOIA is included in Schedule 7 of the PDA). This trigger point is currently expected to be reached in summer 2023, however Berkeley Homes are targeting an earlier start on site for Phase 4, which would require the Council to achieve Vacant Possession by January 2025.

There are currently 41 leasehold properties remaining in Phase 4. Waiting until summer 2023 would allow just eighteen months to complete all property purchases before the scheduled demolition date. It is therefore recommended that the process of buying back properties commences sooner - in order to ensure the continuity of delivery of new homes.

Under the terms of the PDA the Council could progress and complete buy-backs from leaseholders without a CPOIA in place (and other activities related to vacant

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possession). While the Council's costs involved with this would ultimately be recouped by the CPOIA, once entered into, they would only be repaid if Phase 4 proceeded, and these costs would therefore be incurred at risk to the Council.

The Council and Berkeley Homes have therefore agreed to enter into a variation to the agreed form of the CPOIA for Phase 4 which would allow the programme for vacant possession to be brought forward.

This variation to the agreed form of the CPOIA will indemnify the Council against 50% of all of the 'Relevant Expenses' for Phase 4 (primarily the compensation payments paid to leaseholders over and above the purchase price of the properties, as well as any professional fees incurred), in the unlikely circumstance that Phase 4 does not come forward (i.e. a satisfactory planning permission is not received, or the phase is not viable). Berkeley Homes would not compensate the Council for the purchase price of the properties, however the properties would remain as an asset in Council ownership to be managed as appropriate.

If Phase 4 does proceed as expected, the usual PDA process will apply, and Berkeley Homes will reimburse the Council for all land assembly costs incurred (including any third party property purchases) on the trigger date as set out in the PDA. The document is still in draft form, however further detail on the principles of the CPOIA is included in Exempt Appendix 1.

The Council has already begun to purchase properties back in Phase 4 on an 'out-of-phase' basis. To date fifteen properties in Phase 4 have been re-purchased. As these were early buy-backs, no compensation was paid to leaseholders. The variation to the CPO indemnity will enable the Council to negotiate with the remaining 41 leaseholders, who will be eligible for compensation payments.

The Council's preference is always to reach agreement by negotiation with leaseholders and freeholders regarding the buy-back of their properties, however it is recognised this may not be possible in all cases. In such cases, the Council would need to exercise its compulsory purchase powers in order to acquire the properties, as well as any other rights and interests together with adjoining roads and any private rights, including utilities, within the redline boundary of the property. Without the exercise of such powers, vacant possession of the Phase cannot be guaranteed and this could cause delays to the regeneration programme.

A further report will be submitted to Cabinet in due course to request authorisation to make a Compulsory Purchase Order for Phase 4.

Block D Community Facilities - Deed of Variation to the PDA and Supplemental Agreement to the PDA

Block D is a residential block in Woodberry Down, which was completed in early 2021. The ground floor area was initially designed to be used as a private gym and swimming pool for residents.

In 2017 the Council and the Woodberry Down Community Organisation (WDCO) objected to this proposed ground floor use as not being tenure blind or supporting the delivery of a mixed community. Subsequent negotiation with Berkeley Homes resulted in the ground floor being redesignated as a community space for the wider Woodberry Down community.

A set of principles relating to Block D were agreed, which are captured in the Deed of Variation to the PDA (Phases 2-8) and the Supplemental Agreement to the PDA

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(Phases 2-8). This includes that the space (approximately 1,000 sqm) will be leased to the Council at a peppercorn rent. The eventual use for the space in Block D must serve the community and meet the definition below:

‘Any uses which the London Borough of Hackney or any statutory successor shall reasonably designate shall be for the benefit of the local community and/or any parts of the local community including (without limitation) use as a community centre, care centre, local advice centre, nursery, crèche, health centre, medical centre, doctors or dentists surgery, housing management or advice centre, job clubs, education and/or training centre, use as meeting rooms, clubs, sports, social and other facilities for local residents generally and specific sections of the community including young people, parents and carers, children, toddlers and the elderly.’

The Supplemental Agreement establishes that overall the community space must remain cost neutral to the regeneration partners. The Council must not take any surplus from letting the units, and if a surplus arises it must be reinvested back into Woodberry Down. The details of the cost involved will be brought to the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources for approval before entering into the agreement.

Further details on the legal agreements are included in Exempt Appendix 1.

The Council has two years and six months from Practical Completion (PC) of the building to instruct the lease from Berkeley Homes. PC was achieved in March 2021 and the Council has until September 2023 to draw down the lease.

A draft lease is appended to the Supplemental Agreement, negotiated by the Council’s Strategic Property Services (SPS). Due to the length of the lease, SPS will seek separate Cabinet or equivalent authority to enter into it.

The Council is committed to working with WDCO and the regeneration partners to agree a use for the building. A Working Group including WDCO, Berkeley Homes, Notting Hill Genesis and the Council has overseen feasibility and marketing for Block D, and is in the process of reviewing proposals. The Council will seek to agree the approach to Block D with the Working Group, with input from the wider community where possible.

Cabinet authority is sought to vary the PDA and to enter into the Supplemental Agreement in relation to Block D.

11 Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights for change of use from Use Class E to residential in Hackney’s designated industrial areas - Key Decision No: NH S111

Deputy Mayor Nicholson introduced the report.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet:

- I. Approved the making of a non-immediate Article 4 Direction (A4D) (Appendix 1) to withdraw the permitted development (“PD”) rights granted by Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA of the Town and Country**

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Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) (“the GDPO”) for changes of use from Class E to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) in Hackney’s Designated Industrial Areas (as shown in Appendix 2).

- II. Delegated authority to the Director of Legal Democratic and Electoral Services to carry out all publicity/consultation arrangements set out in paragraph 10.1-10.2 of this report and to disapply paragraph 1(1)(c) of Schedule 3 of the GPDO (not to serve individual owner or occupier notice of the A4D because their number makes individual service impracticable).

Reasons for decision

The Council considers that the PDR allowing change of use from Use Class E (commercial, business and services) to C3 (dwellinghouse) without planning permission may constitute a threat to the economy, jobs and amenities of the Borough and would be prejudicial to the proper planning of the Borough, in particular the Council’s ability to prevent the loss of uses which contribute to the wider strategic aims for the area.

This A4D is considered necessary because the Council’s employment and retail planning policies are based on robust evidence which establishes a need to protect employment and commercial uses to ensure the vitality and viability of Hackney’s economy. The permitted development rights would undermine the operation of these policies and may impact negatively on the provision of employment and industrial spaces, and jobs in the Borough.

12 A Place for Everyone Hackney Voluntary and Community Sector Grants - Key Decision No: CED S115

Councillor Kennedy outlined the report to Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet:

Approved the allocation of Community Infrastructure Grant £289,500 across the pool of organisations outlined in Appendix 1.

Delegated powers to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery to review and award the Community Infrastructure Grant in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Lead, the allocation of £110,500 to support community infrastructure development work including the management of any gaps in provision either geographically or by community. The specific awards will be confirmed through collaboration with the successful providers, to shape the final design including delivery configuration and resource allocation.

Agreed in principle, approval for a second and third year of funding for Community Infrastructure organisations for 2023/24 and 2024/25, as set out in Appendix 1 and subject to future budget availability. These would be subject to annual review in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Lead.

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Delegated powers to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery to review and award the Community Chest Grants for 2022/23 in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Lead.

Noted the awards of project-based grants to organisations, including those funded through a budget that in previous years has been deployed for one-off commissioning of youth activity by the Children and Families Service in Appendix 2. Approval of these grants was delegated by Cabinet to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery.

Noted that the review of project based and Specialist grants is still being progressed and in view of this agree in principle to continued funding for 2023/24.

Agreed to the launch of an open process of applications for advice grants in August 2022. Recommendations on awards for three years, subject to future budget availability, will be brought back to Cabinet in January 2023.

Agreed to delegate powers to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Lead, to reinvest in the advice system £35K previously awarded to HCVS over four years in order to develop that organisation's knowledge and skills in systems thinking.

Reasons for decision

The recommendation to launch a VCS grants programme was agreed by Cabinet on 24th January 2022 based on the budget for 2022/23. Cabinet is asked to agree the recommended awards for the Community Infrastructure Grants, the launch of an open application process for the advice grant programme and note progress on the review of Specialist and open, project-based grants. This is a key decision of the Council as it affects two or more wards and is related to Council spend.

A grants review was planned for 2020, and the intention was to build on continuous learning about the best ways to make grant investments in a complex environment, learning in particular from earlier work with advice providers. The direction of travel for this grant review had already been summarised in the Council's Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy 2019. The formal review was delayed following the onset of the pandemic because of the need to focus on grant making that responded to the immediate crisis. However the Council was able to put the learning into practice in the way we funded organisations during this period, when we had to accelerate plans to change the way we understood grant funding.

From this learning we know that there are much more effective and impactful ways to invest in the voluntary and community sector than the traditional approaches to grant making and to commissioning. This traditional approach is transactional and arms-length and assumes complex challenges can be addressed through short term, separate projects and measurable outputs.

The future of the grants programme is being shaped by the Council's experience of working with the sector during the pandemic, the knowledge we have gained from working with our advice providers, and the change and transformation we are trying to achieve as a Council. We do not intend to change the objectives of the grant

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programme and the two main aims are still relevant, if not more so given the refresh of the Council's Corporate Plan:

- To promote social inclusion, encourage independence and develop personal resilience
- To build positive relations between different groups and communities that will maintain the high levels of community cohesion in Hackney

The next phase of the review of the grants programme will be progressed over the next six months focussing on the project-based grants and Specialist grants. This will include exploring further opportunities to build in equality focussed and anti-racist approaches to the delivery of the investment e.g. in the application process.

13 New items of unrestricted urgent business

There were none.

14 Exclusion of the press and public

The Cabinet agreed that they did not wish to discuss the exempt appendices therefore the meeting did not move into an exempt session.

15 Capital Update and Property Disposals And Acquisitions Report - Key Decision No: FCR S084

There was no discussion.

16 Woodberry Down Principal Development Agreement updates - Key Decision No: CHE 112

There was no discussion.

17 New items of exempt urgent business

There were none.

Duration of the meeting: 6.00 - 7.00 pm