

## **THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN**

At a meeting of the **CABINET** held on **WEDNESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 2018** at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

### **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET PRESENT**

Councillors Georgia Gould, Meric Apak, Danny Beales, Patricia Callaghan, Abdul Hai, Angela Mason, Richard Olszewski and Jonathan Simpson

### **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET ABSENT**

Councillors Adam Harrison and Nadia Shah

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Councillors Sian Berry and Oliver Cooper

**The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Cabinet and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.**

## **MINUTES**

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harrison and Shah.

### **2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

### **3. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

### **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**5. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There was no notification.

**6. REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ABOUT WHY THE MEETING SHOULD BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no representations received.

**7. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**8. MATTERS REFERRED FROM A COUNCIL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no matters referred.

**Please note that there were no alternative options considered or rejected by the Cabinet for the following items, unless indicated, although Cabinet Members duly considered, where applicable, options listed within the reports.**

**9. CAMDEN COUNCIL'S MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2019/20 - 2021/22 (CS/2018/26)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the projected medium term deficit, as set out in paragraph 2.2 of the report, be noted;
- (ii) THAT the uncertainty regarding the Council's funding outlook, as set out in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7 of the report, be noted;
- (iii) THAT the strategic approach taken to developing proposals to address the medium term deficit, as set out in Sections 4 and 5 of the report, be noted;

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- (iv) THAT, in relation to the proposals (with associated budget reductions), set out in paragraphs 6.2 to 6.6, Appendix 1 and Annex A of the report:
  - a) Authority be delegated to the relevant Director(s) to immediately implement proposals listed as Decision Category A;
  - b) Proposals listed as Decision Category B be agreed in principle and authority be to delegated to the relevant Director(s), in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to decide whether and how to implement the savings identified within each proposal, having had due regard to the Council's general equality duties and any other applicable legal duties and the results of any consultation undertaken in respect of the proposal, to undertake any necessary consultation, and to make any necessary redundancies, including for any proposals involving more than 20 redundancies;
  - c) Proposals listed as Decision Category C be explored further and reported back to Cabinet (and, if necessary, Council) for consideration at a later date;
- (v) THAT the need for further savings proposals and the ongoing work in developing additional savings, as set out in paragraphs 6.7 to 6.9, be noted;
- (vi) THAT a designation of a London-wide Business Rates pool by the Secretary of State, as set out in paragraphs 6.13 to 6.18 of the report, be agreed in principle but it be noted that the final decision will rest with the Leader;
- (vii) THAT the current estimates of the 2019/20 pressures, as presented in paragraph 6.20 and Appendix 2 of the report, be noted;
- (viii) THAT the forecast financial outturn position for 2018/19, as discussed in Section 8 of the report, be noted; and
- (ix) THAT in relation to fees and charges discussed in Section 9 of the report:
  - a) Authority be delegated to the relevant Director to decide increases to existing fees and charges up to a maximum of 5%, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder;
  - b) The particular content in Appendix 3 of the report, setting out supporting information for the new fees and changes and the fees and charges where the proposed increase is over 5%, be noted; and
  - c) The new fees and charges, and the increase in fees and charges where the proposed increase is over 5%, as shown in Appendix 3 to the report, be agreed.

**ACTION BY: Executive Director Corporate Services**

Reasons

For the reasons set out in the report.

**10. COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019/20 (CS/2018/18)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.

**RESOLVED –**

THAT Full Council be recommended to make no change to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Appendix B to the report), that the scheme continues from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and a review be carried out in order for a future decision to consider options for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020/21 following the roll-out of Universal Credit in Camden.

**ACTION BY: Executive Director Corporate Services**

Reasons

For the reasons set out in the report.

**11. COUNCIL TAX PREMIUMS ON EMPTY HOMES (CS/2018/25)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.

**RESOLVED –**

THAT, having considered the results of the equalities impact assessment at Appendix A of the report, it be agreed that the maximum council tax premiums allowed by the new Act be implemented in full with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, and that the Council's policy on council tax exemptions and discounts be updated to reflect these changes as set out in Appendix B of the report.

**ACTION BY: Executive Director Corporate Services**

Reasons

For the reasons set out in the report.

**12. CAMDEN'S CORPORATE ENERGY PROCUREMENT STRATEGY  
(SC/2018/34)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the procurement strategy as set out in the report, to use a Central Purchasing Body to purchase Camden's gas and electricity through flexible and fixed term fixed price procurement arrangements as described in Section 3.3, be approved;
- (ii) THAT authority be delegated to the Executive Director Supporting Communities to appoint a Central Purchasing Body; and
- (iii) THAT authority be delegated to the Executive Director Supporting Communities to enter into energy supply contracts for the corporate, housing and schools estates.

**ACTION BY: Executive Director Corporate Services**

Reasons

For the reasons set out in the report.

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 8.24 pm.

**CHAIR**

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**MINUTES END**