



HILLINGDON  
LONDON



# Council

# To all Members of the Council

**Date:** THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY  
2017

**Time:** 7.30 PM

**Venue:** COUNCIL CHAMBER -  
CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH  
STREET, UXBRIDGE UB8  
1UW

**Meeting  
Details:** Members of the Public and  
Press are welcome to attend  
this meeting

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2017

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*Putting our residents first*

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# Agenda

## Prayers

To be said by the Reverend Felicity Davies

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Minutes 1 - 14  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2017 (*attached*)
- 3 Declarations of Interest  
To note any declarations of interest in any matter before the Council
- 4 Mayor's Announcements
- 5 Report of the Head of Democratic Services 15 - 22
- 6 General Fund Revenue Budget, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme 2017 / 2018 23 - 30

To consider the recommendations of Cabinet which will be published, once agreed. In the meantime the report to Cabinet is available in the Group Offices, on request to the Head of Democratic Services or online at:

<http://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=23185&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI27880>

**Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 will apply to the recommendations of this item. Any Member who is more than two months in arrears with their Council Tax or has arrears of Council Tax must declare that fact and must not vote on this item.**

Budget Conflict Resolution Procedures – Council is asked to consider the Cabinet's proposals. It may adopt the proposals, submit objections to Cabinet or invite the Cabinet to make amendments specified by Council. If Council votes to object to the Cabinet proposals or to invite Cabinet to make amendments then the Conflict Resolution Procedure will come into operation.

The Council meeting will be adjourned while a special meeting of the Cabinet is held, after which the Council will resume and consider any revised proposals submitted by the Cabinet or the reasons why the Cabinet disagrees with Council's objections or proposed amendments. The budget would then be open for debate and amendment until a final decision is made.

**Members are asked to note that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, recorded votes will be taken at the annual budget setting meeting on any motion, amendment to motion or substantive motion regarding the General Fund Revenue Budget, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme.**

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# Agenda Item 2

## Minutes

### COUNCIL

19 January 2017

Meeting held at Council Chamber - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



Councillor John Hensley (Mayor)  
Councillor Carol Melvin BSc (Hons) (Deputy Mayor)

	<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b> Councillors: Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana    Jem Duducu    Michael Markham Lynne Allen    Janet Duncan    Douglas Mills Teji Barnes    Beulah East    Richard Mills Jonathan Bianco    Ian Edwards    Peter Money Mohinder Birah    Duncan Flynn    John Morgan Wayne Bridges    Neil Fyfe    John Morse Tony Burles    Janet Gardner    June Nelson Keith Burrows    Narinder Garg    Susan O'Brien Roy Chamdal    Dominic Gilham    John Oswell Alan Chapman    Raymond Graham    Jane Palmer George Cooper    Becky Haggard    Ray Puddifoot MBE Judith Cooper    Henry Higgins    John Riley Philip Corthorne    Patricia Jackson    Robin Sansarpuri Brian Crowe    Phoday Jarjussey    Scott Seaman-Digby Peter Curling    Allan Kauffman    David Simmonds CBE Catherine Dann    Judy Kelly    Jagjit Singh Peter Davis    Manjit Khatra    Brian Stead Nick Denys    Mo Khursheed    Jan Sweeting Kanwal Dheer    Kuldeep Lakhmana    Michael White Jazz Dhillon    Eddie Lavery    David Yarrow Jas Dhot    Richard Lewis
	<b>OFFICERS PRESENT:</b> Fran Beasley, Jean Palmer, Paul Whaymand, Tony Zaman, Glen Egan, Mark Braddock, Morgan Eion, Beth Rainey and Nikki O'Halloran
	The Mayor requested that those present observe a one minute silence for Holocaust Memorial Day.
33.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> ( <i>Agenda Item 1</i> )  Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Eginton.
34.	<b>MINUTES</b> ( <i>Agenda Item 2</i> )  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2016 be agreed as a correct record.
35.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> ( <i>Agenda Item 3</i> )  Councillor Allen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Items 5.2, 8.2 and 9.1, as she had two family members that worked in local schools that had Children's

	<p>Centres. She remained in the room during the consideration thereof.</p> <p>Councillor Dheer declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Items 5.2, 8.2 and 9.1, as she used the services provided at Pinkwell Children's Centre. She remained in the room during the consideration thereof.</p> <p>Councillor Lakhmana declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8.1, as she worked at Heathrow Airport. She remained in the room during the consideration thereof.</p> <p>Councillor Khursheed declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 9.1, as his granddaughter was a teacher in a school affected by the motion. He remained in the room during the consideration thereof.</p>
36.	<p><b>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The Mayor advised that Mr Desmond Brady, who had been elected as a Councillor in 1978, had passed away in December 2016.</p> <p>Hillingdon had raised £6,000 and had been awarded fifth place at the Mayor of London's New Years Day Parade. The Mayor thanked Jam 2000 for their tremendous effort.</p> <p>Councillor Singh would be raising money for the Mayor's Charity by running seven marathons in seven days in seven continents, starting in Perth and finishing in Alaska.</p> <p>The Mayor welcomed Councillor Kauffman back to the Chamber following his recent illness.</p>
37.	<p><b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p><b>5.1 QUESTION FROM MR TONY ELLIS OF KEWFERRY ROAD, NORTHWOOD TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLING - COUNCILLOR BURROWS:</b></p> <p>"Is the Council going to respond to the recent consultation document on air pollution published by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and does it agree with NICE's findings that speed bumps cause excessive pollution and that alternative methods of traffic calming should be introduced as recommended in the report?"</p> <p>In the absence of the questioner, the Mayor put the question on his behalf and Councillor Burrows advised that a written response would be provided.</p> <p>[The response sent to Mr Ellis was as follows: <i>The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) consultation has been based upon a number of evidence based nationwide studies informing a series of recommendations which are the subject of the consultation. Where the evidence base is not sufficiently robust the consultation recommends a number of areas for further research.</i></p> <p><i>I have looked at the main topic areas within this consultation and am satisfied that the recommendations for actions that should be taken are ones that Hillingdon are either already implementing or will be considering for implementation under the recent London Local Air Quality Management regime launched by the Mayor of London in 2016. For this reason we do not feel there is a need to respond to this consultation.</i></p>

*We will, however, be interested in the outcomes of the research topics the consultation suggests are needed as these will help us ensure the measures being taken to improve air quality have the desired effect, for example:*

*Are air quality alerts effective in changing people's exposure to poor air quality? Hillingdon provides free access to the London-wide AirText alert system for all our residents and local businesses. Currently 145 people have subscribed to this service; information is available on the Hillingdon website.*

*The NICE consultation recognises that there are both benefits and harms of traffic calming and speed reduction. The benefits include improvements to road safety and a safer environment to promote walking and cycling however stop/start driving, which can be a result from the introduction of measures such as speed bumps, sometimes known as "sleeping policemen", can cause an increase in emissions locally.*

*The NICE recommendation is to reduce this stop-go driving style which will then lower emissions of air pollutants from accelerations and decelerations, lowering exposure of the population to poor air quality.*

*The Borough no longer supports the use of the older type of speed bumps which were the main cause of this style of driving. In consultation with our residents, we look at different types of traffic calming including the introduction of 20mph zones, the use of physical measures such as flat topped tables (table cushions) in accordance with national and regional guidelines and additional measures such as recent investment in the enforcement, by camera, of no stopping zones near to schools.]*

**5.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY MR CHRIS WATERS OF FERRERS AVENUE, WEST DRAYTON TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - COUNCILLOR SIMMONDS:**

"As reported in the Cabinet Report of 15 December 2016, the proposed saving to the budgets for Children's Centres will amount to £405,000 for 2017/2018, which includes the outstanding saving of £215,000, and a further saving of £839,000 over the following 2 years, which will inevitably result in a reduction of staff. Therefore, could the Cabinet Member confirm that these savings will not result in any depletion and/or withdrawal of services at these highly valued centres, which are serving the ever increasing child population in the borough?"

In the absence of the questioner, the Mayor put the question on his behalf and Councillor Simmonds advised that a written response would be provided, based on his response to Members' Question 8.2.

**5.3 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY MR STEPHEN GARELICK OF STOWE CRESCENT, WEST RUISLIP TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLING - COUNCILLOR BURROWS:**

"As has been demonstrated in New Years Green Lane twice following closure last year and with the latest closure, would the Cabinet Member agree that it would be logical to make New Years Green Lane one way to prevent delays due to oversize vehicles being unable to back up when meeting a vehicle of similar size?"

"Delays of up to 20 minutes can be experienced on such a comparatively short road upon which, of course, the refuse facility is based. There is also a safety aspect as speeding, on coming motorists would not cause traffic coming in the opposite

direction to break suddenly. The proposal would also assist in reducing damage caused to the carriageway so soon after resurfacing and may further assist in stopping HS2 using Breakspear Road South if evidence is forthcoming, even at this late stage, showing the environmental impact which has been based on assumption rather than reality."

Councillor Burrows was aware that New Years Green Lane had had to cope with some especially high traffic levels on a handful of occasions over the past year: there had been major gas main renewal works in Breakspear Road South last summer; and a water main had burst in Breakspear Road South last month causing traffic congestion across Ickenham and Harefield.

Councillor Burrows had carefully considered the questioner's suggestion but did not believe that making Breakspear Road South or New Years Green Lane one-way would be the right solution to these problems. Making roads 'one-way' could be fraught with problems for a number of reasons. First and foremost was how such a change would affect the residents and businesses in the immediate area and the inevitable impact the significant detours would have on their journeys and commercial activities. Councillor Burrows was not aware of any pressure from residents or businesses in the area for such a change.

If Breakspear Road South was made one-way, it would have a very broad impact on a number of households and businesses in the area, not to mention having a wider impact for commuters travelling to and from Northwood, Eastcote and Uxbridge, and other destinations beyond. The capacity of the links between Ickenham, West Ruislip and Harefield was already severely limited by the constraints of the road network, and it was thought that imposing any restriction on part of it would simply push the commuters onto other roads in the area, for example, Swakeleys Road, Long Lane, Harvil Road, Ruislip High Street, West End Road and all the residential roads in between.

If New Years Green Lane was made one-way, there were a number of businesses along this road who relied on access from the Harvil Road end, and others from Breakspear Road South, and the size of some of the vehicles involved would mean that one-way working in either direction would have some impact on the local road network.

As hinted in the question, the Council, in common with a great many local residents in Ickenham, Ruislip and Harefield, was already extremely concerned about the potential impact of heavy goods vehicles due to the construction of HS2. Councillor Burrows was not convinced that HS2 would welcome even more lorries being forced to make lengthy detours to cope with a formal one-way restriction.

The Council would be scrutinising the lorry paths planned by HS2 and its contractors for any road-borne construction traffic. The Council and many residents had made it very clear to HS2 that Hillingdon's road network was ill-equipped to cope with high levels of construction traffic. To that end, the Council had forced HS2 to reduce the numbers of lorries it planned to put on Hillingdon's roads. The Council would maintain this pressure to reduce these numbers even further.

After the HS2 consultation had closed, the Secretary of State had submitted an amendment which gave him the power to alter any traffic orders that he saw fit. Even if the Council introduced one-way working, the Secretary of State could overrule the decision. The Council believed that this was unfair and was objecting to it.



	<p>Much of the traffic that flowed through these roads was tidal in nature, with dominant traffic flows one way in the morning and the other way in the evening. Imposing a one-way restriction in one direction alone would only help, if it would really help at all, either in the morning or the afternoon, and would be a major inconvenience the rest of the time, not least to the businesses and residents in the area.</p> <p>Councillor Burrows' final observation concerned the speed of traffic. It was a long established fact that, when any road was made one-way, traffic speed tended to increase for the simple and obvious reason that anyone using the road knew with reasonable certainty that they would not face any opposing traffic coming towards them. He was not convinced that making either of the roads one-way would help road safety as these roads were quite narrow and had some challenging sections.</p> <p>Councillor Burrows thanked the resident for his question which had been made in a constructive way to try to find a way to tackle a very real traffic problem. He hoped that Mr Garelick appreciated the points that he had made and understood why he would not be supporting changes of either Breakspear Road South or New Years Green Lane to one-way working.</p>
38.	<p><b>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot moved, and Councillor Simmonds seconded, the recommendations as set out on the Order of Business and it was:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the appointment to the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board of Mr Stephen Otter as a statutory voting member, with Mr Turkey Mahmoud as substitute, representing Healthwatch Hillingdon, be approved.</b></p>
39.	<p><b>COUNCIL TAX BASE AND BUSINESS RATES FORECAST 2017/18</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>It was noted that there was a typo at the bottom of page 19 of the agenda where it should have stated 30% (not 20%) but that the calculations in the report were correct. Councillor Bianco moved, and Councillor Puddifoot seconded, the recommendations as set out on the Order of Business and it was:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>the report of the Corporate Director of Finance for the calculation of the Council Tax Base and the Business Rates Forecast, be approved;</b></li> <li>b) <b>in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by the London Borough of Hillingdon as its Council Tax Base for 2016/17 shall be 97,220; and</b></li> <li>c) <b>the Corporate Director of Finance be authorised to submit the 2017/18 NNDR1 return to the Department of Communities &amp; Local Government (CLG) and the Greater London Authority (GLA).</b></li> </ul>

40. **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS** (*Agenda Item 8*)

**8.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR GILHAM TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:**

"Could the Leader of the Council update Members on the current situation regarding the legal challenge against the Government's decision to expand Heathrow Airport?"

Councillor Puddifoot advised that, as the Council was aware, a judicial review request had been issued in the High Court in December on two grounds: that the wrong legal test had been applied in relation to air quality; and that residents had a legitimate expectation that there would be no expansion at Heathrow unless the Government had reneged on repeated promises that there would be no third runway. Government lawyers had applied to strike out the judicial review claim on the basis that it was premature and could only be lodged once the Government had completed the national policy statement process which would start in January 2017. This statement was required under the Planning Act 2008 to consider all relevant facts appertaining to a proposed major development. In effect, the Government had made the decision and would now go through due process to justify that decision and the lawyers were arguing that the Council could not challenge the decision that had already been made until the Government had had a chance to justify it. The Government lawyers appeared to have no response to the challenge on air quality.

Two days had been set aside to hear the strike out claim but all evidence had been given in one day and it was expected that judgement would be handed down within the next 7-10 days. The Government lawyers had already indicated that they would appeal the decision if their application was not successful, going on to the Court of Appeal and then the Supreme Court. They seemed to think that they would be able to intimidate the Council with the threat of further legal fees but were mistaken as the authority had made a commitment to fight this injustice through the court process for as long as it took to defend the health and wellbeing of the Borough's residents, community and environment.

Whilst the Government and Heathrow were spending millions of pounds on their campaign, the Council believed that what the Government was doing was illegal and no amount of money bought the right to break the law in this country. Mr Zac Goldsmith, a man of sincerity and integrity with an immense amount of knowledge about the issues and an enviable record of opposing expansion at Heathrow, had agreed to take a supporting role in the Council's campaign and the legal challenge. Mr Goldsmith had been supportive on this issue over many years, putting his passion to protect the environment and the health and wellbeing of people above narrow party politics, and would be championing the Council's campaign with the media.

By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Gilham asked whether Councillor Puddifoot could give his view of the Back Heathrow campaign complaining about this democratically elected Council's use of council funds to protect the residents and the environment.

Councillor Puddifoot noted that the Council was fortunate to have such a poor performing support group such as Back Heathrow acting for Heathrow Airport Limited. Back Heathrow felt that it was inappropriate for the Council to have, between January 2015 and August 2016, spent £154,219 on its campaign to stop expansion at Heathrow. This sum included £50k to assist HACAN and £45,800 to support the Stop Heathrow Expansion Group. Since its launch in September 2013, despite spending a

fortune on literature, publications and mailshots, Back Heathrow's figures showed that they had managed to find just over 100k people in a vast area surrounding the airport to support expansion.

Heathrow Airport Limited and its associates had spent tens of millions of pounds on its expansion campaign, including well over £1m on propping up Back Heathrow as its mouthpiece. If this were not true, they would say so but were too embarrassed to be open and honest about the financial support given. Without honesty and openness, they had no credibility which was why they would not be taken seriously as anything other than the public relations arm of Heathrow.

On the subject of finance, in the four years to January 2016, Heathrow Airport Limited had paid its shareholders £2.1bn. As such, it was no wonder that the airport's foreign owners wanted it expanded as, for them, it was a cash cow. In the ten years to January 2016, only £24m had been paid in UK corporate tax, an average of £2.4m per year. Since July 2015, when the Government announced the Heathrow expansion, it had spend £3.8m of taxpayers' money trying to take the scheme forward. It was expected that this figure would rise dramatically. In the ten years since January 2007, after deducting £170k contributed by other councils, Hillingdon had utilised £587,078 of Council funds to fight pro expansion. This figure averaged at £58,708 per year and amounted to 60p per year for each household or 20p per year for each resident.

Councillor Puddifoot advised that the Council would continue to provide the funding, sincerity and integrity necessary to both defend and represent Hillingdon residents for however long it took to win the battle.

**8.5 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PROPERTY AND BUSINESS SERVICES - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:**

"As the Housing Maintenance Department is aware many parts of the walk ways in both Austin Road and Silverdale Road are in a poor state, as is the quality of the lighting in the same area. It is only a matter of time before an accident takes place.

"Could the Cabinet Member please inform Members what action is proposed to remedy the situation, be it in the short term whilst this inclement weather is upon us, making it safe for residents, particularly the elderly and those with disabilities who are less steady on their feet?"

Councillor Bianco advised that Carriageway and Pavement condition surveys only included footways and pavements adjacent to carriageways/roads. These surveys did not include footpaths in between houses or across grassed areas which would be inspected by Highways upon request by Housing/Green Spaces or as a result of a Members' Enquiry and any subsequent repairs would be funded from Housing Revenue Account budget.

A recent search of Members' Enquiries showed that Councillor Allen had not reported any of the issues raised in this question which would normally have been the correct way to report these concerns. However, in a bid to assist Councillor Allen, Councillor Bianco had requested that Highways inspect the areas referred to and report the findings back to him so that action could be taken if required.

By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Allen advised that she was aware

that Members' Enquiries on this subject had been submitted by another Member of her Group and asked when was the last time that Councillors had stepped foot in Austin Road. Councillor Bianco advised that he was aware that Councillors D Mills and Corthorne had visited Austin Road in the last six months.

## **8.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR FLYNN TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES - COUNCILLOR SIMMONDS**

"Can the Cabinet Member please update the Council on the consultation regarding the future of Hillingdon's Children's Centre programme?"

Councillor Simmonds advised that his response to this question would also apply to Mr Waters' public question. It was recognised that Children's Centres were host to a number of universal services including baby clinics. As most Members would be aware from the consultation that was underway, Hillingdon had 18 Children's Centres which had been set up under the last Labour Government under the Sure Start programme.

The Centres, at the time, had been provided with generous capital funding and very tight deadlines by which they had to be built and opened. Hillingdon Council had delivered on this programme, as had many parts of the country. However, the Centres had lacked sustained revenue funding to ensure that these buildings had plenty going on within them to ensure day to day service delivery. This lack of ongoing revenue funding, combined with emerging evidence which was being examined at national and local level, had raised questions about whether the current configuration of Children's Centres was reaching the most vulnerable children and families and had prompted the Government and councils to look again at the service model.

The proposals that were currently under consultation aimed to allow the service to look towards a more sustainable future and, like the Music Service and the Council's libraries, the Borough needed to live within its means and apply its experience of reducing costs and sustaining services to its Children's Centres. The Council's experience had been that great efficiencies could be achieved whilst expanding the offer, in many cases, to residents and this was the aim for Children's Centres.

Councillor Simmonds referred Members to the Leader's speech that he gave at the staff roadshow in 2012 when he had advised that a lot of hard work and the Business Improvement Delivery (BID) programme would help the Council to achieve an increased degree of efficiency whilst reaching all residents. BID fundamentally reshaped the way that the Council delivered and operated services and was currently the most important project in the Hillingdon Improvement Programme. The pledge had been given that, when embarking on such an ambitious programme that would cover every area of Council activity, it was absolutely essential that there was a consistency of approach in how service delivery was transformed. The process had to be started with no preconceptions or 'holy cows'.

Hillingdon was one Council: it was not Social Services, education, central services, housing or the environment. It needed to be recognised that not all managers, senior managers or directors would deliver the BID programme in the same way and, whilst financial savings were a very important aspect of what BID achieved, it also enabled the Council to look at the operational procedures and the structure of each area of activity to both maintain and improve services to residents.

In terms of what the Government expected from the Council, Councillor Simmonds drew Members' attention to the Ofsted Social Care report 2016. Key things identified in high performing local authorities included leaders making decisions to invest in, and reduce spending on, programmes based on what had been shown to work. Because investment was linked to better outcomes, the more costly problems were prevented, freeing up resources for further investment. This was what was at the heart of the BID programme. The Council needed to ensure that every one of its services reached the most vulnerable children that they were intended to serve.

The principal source of funding for Children's Centres was the Government's Early Intervention Grant (EIG). There had been a lot a political debate about the future of Children's Centres across the country as the EIG had disappeared in its entirety in 2013. At that point, some of the money had been transferred into the Business Rates allowance given to the Council and the remainder had been put into the Dedicated Schools Grant which funded the offer of free care for vulnerable two year olds provided by a wide range of private and Council nurseries within the Borough. Although the money was being put to good use, the consequence of this change meant that the Council had a significantly reduced resource base from which to support the Centres. Consideration needed to be given to whether a reduction in management overheads and reducing some of the costs would ensure that the money got much closer to the front line.

If the Council brought the services back in house, staff would be employed by the Council. This would mean that, in the short and medium term, staff at the Children's Centres would remain the same. However, Hillingdon needed to be confident that this was a model that other councils had looked at and found to be effective. The proposed delivery model had been found to be effective and adopted in neighbouring boroughs. Harrow had reduced its Children's Centres from 16 to 10 and, in order to sustain the service to residents, had now implemented the hub model that Hillingdon was looking at resulting in the reach of the Centres significantly improving. Hounslow had implemented the same model after deciding to reduce from 18 to 5 Children's Centres in December 2015 with some other centres operating in a slightly different way and four of the buildings being handed over to schools for them to use as they chose (potentially as nurseries). Councillor Simmonds noted that, although these were not bad uses of the facilities, this was absolutely not the core purpose of Children's Centres.

The Council was focussed on the outcomes that it needed to achieve. There were still too many children growing up in Hillingdon who could have been identified earlier by Children's Centres to partners in the NHS and schools. These children ended up going into care or perhaps having different outcomes than the child or their family would have wanted and didn't represent the Council's ambitions for them. Parents want their children to have access to the very best and, as a Council that aspired to ensure that every child was reached, it should not just be those who already engaged with the system, but also the most vulnerable children that lived on traveller sites, whose families may only be briefly resident in the Borough or who had unrecognised special educational needs because their parents might not have the language skills to engage with the system. These were the children and families that Children's Centres had to focus on to reduce costs but also because it was the right thing to do. This had been what laid behind the consultation and the proposals that the Council had put forward.

There was no supplementary question.

**8.4 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR NELSON TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PROPERTY AND BUSINESS SERVICES - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:**

"Many councils have recently chosen to scrap burial fees for infants and children. In contrast Hillingdon, in its draft budget for 2017/18, has proposed raising these fees by between 6 and 12% (depending on the type of burial). Why has Hillingdon chosen not to alleviate this unexpected financial burden on families experiencing an excruciatingly painful time in their lives?"

Councillor Bianco advised that child mortality in Hillingdon was low and, in 2015, the Council had made the decision to provide cremations for under 18 years of age at no charge, recognising this painful time in families' lives. However, there had always been a fee for infant burials as they occupied a grave space, which had to be prepared and then maintained into the future. The Council's fees had been benchmarked at 90% of the average charged by neighbouring boroughs with Brent, Harrow, Ealing, Hounslow, Hendon, Richmond and North Watford (Hertfordshire) all still charging for infant burials.

As part of the Social Fund, a Funeral Payment was also available to help pay for a funeral for those on a low income. The Council's Bereavement Services staff knew the impact a sudden infant death could have on families and received specialist training to help explain the complex thoughts and feelings of grief as well as the practicalities of an infant bereavement.

There was no supplementary question.

**8.3 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR LAVERY TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:**

"Would the Leader of the Council confirm that Hillingdon Council will oppose the request made by Ealing Council to the Mayor of London that RAF Northolt be considered as a site on which to build 20,000 new homes?"

Councillor Puddifoot advised that the Mayor of London had started a review of the London Plan, a key part of which would be a review of the boroughwide housing targets to meet identified housing needs. Large sites had been identified through a desktop study and through a call for sites process which took place in June 2016, giving an unrestricted opportunity for individuals and organisations to submit sites for consideration for development. Ealing Council, without any reference to Hillingdon, had put forward RAF Northolt as a site with the potential to deliver 20,000 homes. The Council had only become aware of this just prior to Christmas. When asked why this had been done, an Ealing representative had said that, despite its housing trajectory, Ealing would struggle to meet assessors' needs in the future and this site would help in the long term to address the housing needs of West London.

It had further been commented that the closure of RAF Northolt would help ensure that Heathrow mitigated some of its environmental impacts by sharing the pain with amended flight paths. Although Heathrow was not yet willing to announce where the new flight paths would be, Ealing had suggested that they would be coming over Northolt. Ealing Council had been supportive of Heathrow expansion and it was correct to say that, apart from military aircraft movements, no civil aircraft would be able to use Northolt which would be overflowed by Heathrow aircraft going in and out.

	<p>With regard to providing housing for West London, Ealing had not considered traffic movements, the need for new infrastructure, basic utilities, and the social infrastructure such as healthcare provision. A development of this scale would be expected to accommodate between 45k-60k residents. The lower of these estimates would include around 13k children who would require a school place and there would be a need for 30-40 new GPs. Although living in Hillingdon might look very attractive to those in other London boroughs, this would not be the case if the Borough was involved in massive overdevelopment of this kind. It was anticipated that this would be revisited in the coming year. For now, the Ward Councillors representing the Ruislip and Hillingdon areas, which would be massively affected, should assure their residents that the Council would robustly oppose this suggestion if it was not rejected by the Mayor of London.</p> <p>There was no supplementary question.</p>
41.	<p><b>MOTIONS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 9</i>)</p> <p><b>9.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR SWEETING</b></p> <p>Councillor Sweeting moved, and Councillor Nelson seconded, the following motion:</p> <p><i>That, as studies have recently shown that services to support the youngest are critically important to their lives and development and often affect their need, or otherwise, for services in Adult Life, this Council confirms its support to its youngest residents in their earliest years including the very valued services provided by the borough's Children Centres. In view of the pressure on budgets, this Council will seek funding from all available sources, including central government, in order to protect these services for its youngest residents.</i></p> <p>Councillor Simmonds moved, and Councillor Higgins seconded, an amendment to replace all words after "In view of the pressure on budgets,..." with "and the significant reductions since 2010 in Government funding for children's centres, Council supports the action being taken to place the centres on a more sustainable footing by bringing services in-house in order to seek efficiencies while ensuring support for those in need".</p> <p>Following debate (Councillors Allen, Dheer, Khatra, Lakhmana, Money, Nelson and Sweeting), the amended motion was put to a recorded vote:</p> <p>Those voting for: The Mayor (Councillor Hensley), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Melvin), Councillors Ahmad-Wallana, Barnes, Bianco, Bridges, Burrows, Chamdal, Chapman, G Cooper, J Cooper, Corthorne, Crowe, Dann, Davis, Denys, Duducu, Edwards, Flynn, Fyfe, Gilham, Graham, Haggar, Higgins, Jackson, Kauffman, Kelly, Lavery, Lewis, Markham, D Mills, R Mills, Morgan, O'Brien, Palmer, Puddifoot, Riley, Seaman-Digby, Simmonds, Stead, White and Yarrow.</p> <p>Those voting against: Councillors Allen, Birah, Burles, Curling, Dheer, Dhillon, Dhot, Duncan, East, Gardner, Garg, Jarjussey, Khatra, Khursheed, Lakhmana, Money, Morse, Nelson, Oswell, Sansarpuri, Singh and Sweeting.</p> <p>Those abstaining: None.</p> <p>The substantive motion was then put to the vote and it was:</p>

**RESOLVED:** That, as studies have recently shown that services to support the youngest are critically important to their lives and development and often affect their need, or otherwise, for services in Adult Life, this Council confirms its support to its youngest residents in their earliest years including the very valued services provided by the borough's Children Centres. In view of the pressure on budgets and the significant reductions since 2010 in Government funding for children's centres, Council supports the action being taken to place the centres on a more sustainable footing by bringing services in-house in order to seek efficiencies while ensuring support for those in need.

## **9.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DUNCAN**

Councillor Duncan moved, and Councillor Allen seconded, the following motion:

*That this Council wishes to support Hillingdon's vulnerable adults and will, therefore, ensure that, where it is making a vulnerable adult homeless, an effective in-house process exists to ensure appropriate support is given to securing alternative housing for the vulnerable adult without the need to resort to the time, expense and stress of court action. Further that when vulnerable adults are made homeless by non-Council landlords, that adequate support will be given to securing alternative housing for them.*

Following debate (Councillor Sansarpuri), Councillor Corthorne moved, and Councillor Edwards seconded an amendment to:

- delete the words starting on line 2 "where it is making a vulnerable adult homeless" and replace with "where there is a risk of a vulnerable adult being made homeless"; and
- delete the final sentence and replace with a new sentence as follows: "This Council notes the close work between social care and housing departments to find housing solutions for Hillingdon's most vulnerable residents, which includes well established protocols for referrals and also for complex cases and thanks the staff involved in for dealing with such cases in a professional manner."

Following debate (Councillors Duncan and East), the amended motion was put to the vote and carried. Following further debate (Councillor Duncan), the substantive motion was then put to the vote and it was unanimously:

**RESOLVED:** That this Council wishes to support Hillingdon's vulnerable adults and will, therefore, ensure that where there is a risk of a vulnerable adult being made homeless, an effective in-house process exists to ensure appropriate support is given to securing alternative housing for the vulnerable adult without the need to resort to the time, expense and stress of court action. This Council notes the close work between social care and housing departments to find housing solutions for Hillingdon's most vulnerable residents, which includes well established protocols for referrals and also for complex cases and thanks the staff involved in for dealing with such cases in a professional manner.

## **9.3 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CURLING**

Councillor Curling moved, and Councillor Morse seconded, the following motion:

*That this Council calls upon the Executive Scrutiny Committee, Corporate Services*



*Policy Overview Committee, or an appropriate working group, to scrutinise the Cabinet Member petition process, especially with regard to the time taken for the decisions made at petition hearings to result in action being taken, and then make recommendations on how the process can be improved so that it delivers more timely outcomes for the residents who organise, sign and present their petitions to Cabinet Members.*

Following debate (Councillors Allen, Money and Nelson), the motion was put to a recorded vote:

Those voting for: Councillors Allen, Birah, Burles, Curling, Dheer, Dhillon, Dhot, Duncan, East, Gardner, Garg, Jarjussey, Khatra, Khursheed, Lakhmana, Money, Morse, Nelson, Oswell, Sansarpuri, Singh and Sweeting.

Those voting against: The Mayor (Councillor Hensley), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Melvin), Councillors Ahmad-Wallana, Barnes, Bianco, Bridges, Burrows, Chamdal, Chapman, G Cooper, J Cooper, Corthorne, Crowe, Dann, Davis, Denys, Duducu, Edwards, Flynn, Fyfe, Gilham, Graham, Haggard, Higgins, Jackson, Kauffman, Kelly, Lavery, Lewis, Markham, D Mills, R Mills, Morgan, O'Brien, Palmer, Puddifoot, Riley, Seaman-Digby, Simmonds, White and Yarrow.

Those abstaining: None.

The motion was lost.

#### **9.4 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EAST**

Councillor East moved, and Councillor Khatra seconded, the following motion:

*That this Council believes that a decent society provides the necessary resources to care for its older and disabled people. There is a crisis in social care caused by an increasingly ageing population with more complex needs, more demands for social care services and less funding to pay for it. This Council therefore asks the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Housing to jointly write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer to bring forward to the current year the additional Better Care Fund money planned for 2018/19.*

Councillor Corthorne moved, and Councillor Puddifoot seconded, an amendment to delete last sentence and replace with the following:

'This Council notes that representations have been made by the Leader of the Council, the Director of Finance and by the Chairman of the Local Government Association to various levels of Government requesting a more adequate level of funding.

The Council resolves to continue to implement the sound financial management and good business practices that has enabled Hillingdon Council to deal with the issue of underfunding so well to date.'

Following debate (Councillor East), the amended motion was put to the vote and carried. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and it was unanimously:

**RESOLVED: That this Council believes that a decent society provides the necessary resources to care for its older and disabled people. There is a crisis**

	<p><b>in social care caused by an increasingly ageing population with more complex needs, more demands for social care services and less funding to pay for it. This Council notes that representations have been made by the Leader of the Council, the Director of Finance and by the Chairman of the Local Government Association to various levels of Government requesting a more adequate level of funding.</b></p> <p><b>The Council resolves to continue to implement the sound financial management and good business practices that has enabled Hillingdon Council to deal with the issue of underfunding so well to date.'</b></p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 9.39 pm.</p>

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Lloyd White, Head of Democratic Services on 01895 556743. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

## REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

*Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services*

### (i) URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Urgency decisions detailed below be noted.

#### Information

1. The Constitution allows a Cabinet or Cabinet Member decision to be implemented before the expiry of the 5 day call-in provided there is agreement from the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Executive Scrutiny Committee to waive this. All such decisions are to be reported for information only to the next full Council meeting.
2. Recently the following decisions have been made using the urgency procedures:

Date of Decision	Decision Type / Nature of Decision	Decision-Maker
11/01/2017	Housing Revenue Account Works to Stock Programme 2016/17 - Replacement of Fire Alarm Systems at Various Sheltered Housing Schemes (Release No 23) (£53,000)	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services
27/01/2017	The Award of Contracts in Connection with the Replacement of the Clubhouse at Fassnidge Bowls Club - PART II	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services
27/01/2017	The Award of Contracts for the Replacement of Existing Changing Room and Office Area at Ladygate Bowls Club and the Creation of New Kitchen Facilities at the Harefield Hospital Bowls Club - PART II	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services
06/02/2017	Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) 2016/17 Release No 11 / Housing Revenue Account Major Adaptations to Property 2016/17 Release No 9	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services
10/02/2017	Disposal of 234a and 236 Swakeleys Road, Ickenham - PART II	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Decision Notices

## **(ii) MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2017/18**

1. The Council is required to undertake an annual re-adoption of its Allowances Scheme and, in doing so give due regard to the recommendations made by the report of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London. The last report by that body was published in June 2014 and, having given due regard to its contents, no change is proposed to the nature of the Allowances Scheme for 2017/18.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS: That:**

- a) **the current Members' Allowances Scheme be revoked as of 31 March 2017 and the new Scheme for 2017/18 be approved, as shown in Appendix A, for implementation from 1 April 2017.**
- b) **The Head of Democratic Services be authorised to increase the level of Basic and Special Responsibility allowances in line with any annual pay award to staff.**

### **INFORMATION**

2. Regulation 10 Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires re-adoption of the scheme by 31 March 2017.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3. Provision has been made in the 2017/18 budget for Members' Allowances, although it is important to note this is based upon current posts being held by Members and those who occupy more than one post are only eligible to receive one Special Responsibility Allowance, normally the higher. It is therefore difficult to accurately estimate the true cost until after the Annual General Meeting in May when Members are confirmed or re-confirmed into posts receiving a Special Responsibility Allowance.
4. The 2017/18 scheme has been adjusted to include a 1% increase in line with the annual pay award to staff due to take effect from 1 April 2017.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. The current scheme, which has been adopted by the Council, needs to be revoked as of 31 March 2017 and a new scheme, in accordance with the 2003 Regulations, has to be made before 31 March 2017. If it is not, any allowances paid to Members would not comply with the law and could therefore be challenged.
6. Before making or amending its allowances scheme, the Council is required, by virtue of Regulation 19, to have regard to the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel. The latest recommendations made by the Panel in 2014 have been taken into account when making these recommendations.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Report of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London.

### iii) PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2017/18

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the timetable of meetings for 2017/18 as set out in Appendix A, be approved and the Head of Democratic Services in consultation with the Chief Whip of the Majority Party be authorised to make any amendments that may be required throughout the course of the year.

Members should note that during the course of the year meeting times and dates of some meetings may change or additional meetings may be called in order for the effective conduct of the council's business.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

**MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2017/18****1. Introduction**

In accordance with Local Authorities (Members Allowances) England Regulations 2003 No. 1021 (as amended) the London Borough of Hillingdon makes the following scheme: -

**2. Basic Allowance**

For 2017/18 an allowance of **£11,036.71** will be payable to all Councillors. This figure will be increased each subsequent year in line with the annual Local Government Pay Settlement and it will be paid in equal monthly instalments. The basic allowance includes intra borough travel and subsistence costs.

**3. Special Responsibility Allowances**

Special responsibility allowances of the following amounts shall be paid in equal monthly instalments to Councillors holding the following responsibilities:

		(£)
1.	Mayor	22,193.66
2.	Deputy Mayor	8,655.39
3.	Leader of the Council	54,910.84
4.	Deputy Leader of the Council	46,255.45
5.	Chief Whip of Largest Party	22,193.66
6.	Cabinet Member	38,682.07
7.	Chairman of Scrutiny and Policy Overview Committee	22,193.66
8.	Chairman of Planning Committee	22,193.66
9.	Chairman of Licensing Committee	9,474.86
10.	Vice Chairman of Licensing Committee	6,255.25
11.	Chairman of Standards Committee	3,127.63
12.	Standards Committee Independent Person	1,563.81
13.	Chairman of Audit Committee*	2,975.49
14.	Champion	5,707.22
15.	Council representative on Adoption and Permanency Panel	12,510.51
16.	Cabinet Assistant	8,655.39
17.	Leader of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Party	22,193.66
18.	Deputy Leader of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Party	5,707.22
19.	Chief Whip of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Party	5,707.22
20.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Party Lead on Scrutiny and Policy Overview Committee	5,707.22
21.	Party Lead on Planning Committee	5,707.22

\* Where a non-Councillor is Chairman or Vice Chairman a co-optees' allowance is payable as set out in the Scheme under section 9.

Special Responsibility Allowances will be increased each subsequent year in line with the annual Local Government Pay Settlement.

#### 4. Limit on Payment of Special Responsibility Allowances

Individual Councillors may not claim a special responsibility allowance for more than one position for which they qualify.

#### 5. Renunciation

Councillors may elect to forego any of their entitlement to an allowance under the scheme by giving written notice to the Corporate Director of Finance.

#### 6. Part-Year Entitlements

- (a) This paragraph regulates Councillors' entitlement to allowances where the scheme is amended during the course of the year or where an individual ceases to be a Councillor or accepts or relinquishes a position of special responsibility.
- (b) If an amendment to this scheme is made during the year to which it refers and changes the amount which a Councillor may claim in basic allowances the annual entitlement shall be calculated using the following method:-

Annual entitlement to basic allowance	=	Days at unamended rate divided by 365	X	Annual payment at unamended rate	+	Days at amended rate divided by 365	X	Annual payment at amended rate
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- (c) Where the term of office of a Councillor begins or ends part way through the year the annual entitlement to basic allowance shall be calculated using the following method:

Annual entitlement to basic allowance	=	Days as a Councillor divided by 365	X	Annual rate of allowance
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- (d) Where this scheme is amended during the year to which it refers the annual entitlement to basic allowance of Councillors beginning or ending their term of office part way through the year shall be calculated using the following method:

Annual entitlement to basic allowance	=	Days as a Councillor during unamended scheme divided by 365	X	Annual payment at unamended rate	+	Days as a Councillor during amended scheme divided by 365	X	Annual payment at amended rate
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- (e) Where Councillors hold positions of special responsibility during part of the year their annual entitlement to special responsibility allowance shall be calculated using the following method:

Annual entitlement for special responsibility allowance	=	Days holding position of special responsibility during unamended scheme divided by 365	X	Annual payment at unamended rate	+	Days holding position of special responsibility during amended scheme divided by 365	X	Annual payment at amended rate
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## **7. Out of Borough Travelling and Subsistence Allowances**

Councillors shall be entitled to claim for out of borough travelling allowances incurred in undertaking approved duties as agreed in advance by the Council.

The out of borough car mileage allowance for Councillors shall be paid at the same rate as those paid to officers for the Standard Mileage User Allowance.

The amounts paid for out of borough subsistence shall be in accordance with the maximum levels laid down from time to time by the Department for Communities and Local Government but claims may only be made for approved duties.

## **8. Dependent / Carers Allowance**

A dependent / carers allowance shall be payable at the National Minimum Wage for Adults hourly rate based on the following criteria:

- payments should be subject to a maximum weekly payment, equivalent to seven-and-a-half hours of care per week;
- the maximum rate should be set locally to reflect local costs, in accordance with social service departments levels;
- payment should be claimable in respect of children aged 15 or under or in respect of other dependants where there is medical or social work evidence that care is required;
- only one weekly payment should be claimable in respect of the household of each Member, except in special circumstances to be judged by the Council's Standards Committee;
- the allowance should be paid as a reimbursement of incurred expenditure against receipts;
- the allowance should not be payable to a member of the claimant's own household and;
- any dispute as to entitlement and any allegation of abuse should be referred to the Council's Standards Committee for adjudication.

## **9. Co-optees' Allowances**

Where a co-optee and non-Councillor is the Chairman of the Audit Committee, an annual entitlement allowance of £2,975.49 may be paid. This will be paid on a pro-rata basis if the appointment of the co-optee begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year. Where a co-optee is an Independent Person on the Standards Committee an annual entitlement allowance of £1,563.81 may be paid. Where a co-optee is one of the three statutory education co-optees on the Executive Scrutiny Committee, an annual entitlement allowance of £417.02 may be paid. This will be paid on a pro-rata basis if the appointment of the co-optee begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year. These allowances will cover expenses, such as travel and subsistence, related to the duties of the postholder.

## **10. Claims and Payments**

- (a) All claims for out of borough travelling and subsistence and carers allowances must be submitted within two months of the date of the approved duty to which they relate, made on the standard form as used by officers and returned to the Head of Democratic Services.



- (b) Payments shall be made in respect of basic and special responsibility allowances subject to sub-paragraph (c) below in Instalments of one twelfth of the amount specified in this scheme on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month direct to each Member's bank or building society account.
- (c) Where the payment of allowances in one-twelfth instalments would result in a Councillor receiving more than he or she is entitled to because of a part year effect (as defined in paragraph 9 above) the payment shall be restricted to the annual entitlement.

## **11. Withholding Members' Allowances**

Where there has been an adjudication, which suspends or partially suspends a Councillor from office following a breach of the Code of Conduct, the Council may withhold all allowances paid to that Councillor with immediate effect.

## **12. Records of Allowances and Publicity**

In accordance with the 2003 regulations a detailed record will be kept of the name of the recipient and the amount and nature of each payment made. This will be available for public inspection at all reasonable times or copies supplied following the payment of a reasonable fee.

As soon as is reasonably practicable after the end of the municipal year to which the scheme relates the total sum paid to each recipient in respect of basic allowances, special responsibility allowance, dependant carers allowance and out of borough travelling and subsistence allowance will be published on the Council's website and local newspaper.

## **13. Independent Remuneration Panel**

Hillingdon Council has had regard to the recommendations made by the Independent Panel for the Remuneration of Councillors in London in developing its Members' Allowances Scheme.

## APPENDIX B

### Programme of Meetings 2017/2018 *(NB. Times may occasionally vary from those shown in first column.)*

MEETING (and start time)	May	June	July	Aug'	Sept'	Oct'	Nov'	Dec'	Jan'	Feb'	Mar'	April	May
COUNCIL (7.30pm)	11		6		7		2		18	22			10 (A)
CABINET (7pm)	18	22	27		28	19	16	14	25	15	15	19	17
Central & South Planning Committee (7pm)	16	7, 27	19	8, 30	19	10, 31	23	12	11	7	1, 20	10	24
North Planning Committee (7pm)	10, 30	20	13	2, 23	12	3, 25	15	5	10, 31	20	13	5	15
Major Applications Committee (6pm)	10, 30	20	13	2, 23	12	3, 25	15	5	10, 31	20	13	5	15
Whips Meeting (5pm)			4		5	31			16	20			
Pensions Committee (7pm)		13			25			6			21		
Pensions Board (5pm)		28				4			9			3	
Audit Committee (5pm)		29			27			13					
Health & Wellbeing Board (2.30pm)		27			26			7			8		
Health & Wellbeing Board Working Group (dates tbc)													
Petition Hearings with the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation & Recycling (7pm)	17	14	12		13	11	8	4	17	14	14		16
Petition Hearings with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services (7pm)		21			20		1		29	21			
Petition Hearings with other Cabinet Members (dates & times tbc)													
Licensing Committee (10am)			13			17			9			12	
Licensing Sub-Committee (2pm)	3, 23	7, 23	5, 19	3, 16	5, 19	4, 18	9, 22	1, 15	4, 23	6, 20	1, 19	4	18
Executive Scrutiny Committee (at the rising of Cabinet)	18	22	27		28	19	16	14	25	15	15		17
Social Services, Housing & Public Health Policy Overview Committee (POC) (7pm)		28	20		5	2	6		23	27	22		
Residents' & Environmental Services POC (5.30pm)		20	26		20	17	21		24	28	27		
Children, Young People and Learning POC (7pm)		12	31		27	18	28		9	8	19		
Corporate Services and Partnerships POC (7.30pm)		15	18		6	10	7		4	1	7		
External Services Scrutiny Committee (6pm)		14	11		14	11	14		11	13	14		
Hillingdon SACRE (7.30pm)		6					1				29		
Standards Committee (7pm)		5			11			13			5		
Corporate Parenting Board (5.30pm)	22		10		25		20		22		26		22
Registration & Appeals Committee (dates / times tbc)													

## GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18

### Council Tax Resolution 2017/18 – Cabinet Proposals

#### Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to calculate and approve the Council Tax Requirement for 2017/18, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011.
2. Cabinet on 16 February will be considering proposals to Council on Hillingdon's General Fund Revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account Budget, Fees & Charges, Capital Programme, Treasury Management Strategy and London Borough of Hillingdon's Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18. Cabinet will recommend a budget to Council in line with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules as set out in the Council's Constitution.
3. The proposals will be published, once agreed. In the meantime the report to Cabinet is available in the Group Offices, on request to the Head of Democratic Services or online at:

<http://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?IId=23185&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI27880>

Background Documents: None

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## **GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18**

### **Council Tax Resolution 2017/18 – Cabinet Proposals**

#### **Summary**

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to calculate and approve the Council Tax Requirement for 2017/18, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as subsequently amended. In addition, the Act requires Council to determine whether any council tax increase is excessive (that is in excess of 5%) which would require a referendum to be held.
2. **All Members have been supplied with a copy of the proposed budget and are cordially requested to bring that to the Council meeting.**
3. Cabinet on 16 February considered proposals to Council on Hillingdon's General Fund Revenue Budget, Housing Revenue Account Budget, Capital Programme, amendments to the approved schedule of Fees & Charges, Treasury Management Strategy, Pay Policy Statement and Housing Rents Policy. In addition, Cabinet also considered reasons for and implications arising from these proposals which result in a Band D Council Tax for Hillingdon of £1,112.93, which represents a freeze on the element of Council Tax at the 2016/17 level.
4. The report to Cabinet is available in the Group Offices, on request to the Head of Democratic Services or online at:  
<http://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?IId=23185&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI27880>
5. In addition, it is recommended that the Council formally opts into the Public Sector Audit Appointments national collective scheme for the appointment of external auditors for the 2018/19 and later year's accounts. There are significant advantages, particularly in terms of value for money, to be gained from opting into the national scheme.
6. The Greater London Authority (GLA) precept agreed by the London Assembly on 20 February 2017 adds £280.02 to the amount payable by Hillingdon's Council Tax payers. This represents a 1.5% increase in the GLA portion of Council Tax compared to 2016/17.
7. Based on the Cabinet's proposals, and the GLA precept, the total Band D Council Tax for 2017/18 will be £1,392.95.

#### **CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS: That:**

- 1 **The General Fund revenue budget proposals made by Cabinet be approved, resulting in a Council Tax requirement for 2017/18 of £108,199,055;**
- 2 **Council note that at its meeting on 19 January 2017 the Council calculated the amount of 97,220 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2017/18. This**

was calculated in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, as its Council Tax Base for the year (*Item T in the formula in Section 31B (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992*);

3 The Hillingdon element of Council Tax be set at £1,112.93 for a Band D property. Taking into account the precept levied by the Greater London Authority, this results in an overall Band D Council Tax of £1,392.95 for the borough;

4 The following amounts have been calculated by the Council for the year 2017/18, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):

a) £422,948,055 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) (a) to (f) of the Act. (*Gross Expenditure including the amount required for additions to working balances*)

b) £314,749,000 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act. (*Gross Income including reserves to be used to meet Gross Expenditure*)

c) £108,199,055 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4 (b) above. This is calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year. (*Item R under Section 31B of the Act*)

d) £1,112.93 being the amount at 4 (c) above divided by Item T (2 above). This is, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. (*Council Tax at Band D for the Council*)

e)

The London Borough of Hillingdon Council Tax			
Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
741.95	865.61	989.27	1,112.93
Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
1,360.25	1,607.57	1,854.88	2,225.86

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 4 (d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D. This is calculated by the Council in accordance with Section

36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;

- 5 Council note that for the year 2017/18 the Greater London Authority and its functional bodies have stated the following amounts in precepts. These have been issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<b>The Greater London Authority Precept</b>			
<b>Band A</b>	<b>Band B</b>	<b>Band C</b>	<b>Band D</b>
186.68	217.79	248.91	280.02
<b>Band E</b>	<b>Band F</b>	<b>Band G</b>	<b>Band H</b>
342.25	404.47	466.70	560.04

- 6 The Council has calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4 (e) and 5 above. The Council in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the Council Tax for the year 2017/18 for each category of dwelling below:

<b>Total Council Tax 2015/16</b>			
<b>Band A</b>	<b>Band B</b>	<b>Band C</b>	<b>Band D</b>
928.63	1,083.40	1,238.18	1,392.95
<b>Band E</b>	<b>Band F</b>	<b>Band G</b>	<b>Band H</b>
1,702.50	2,012.04	2,321.58	2,785.90

- 7 The Council Tax Discount for Older People be retained at 4.88% of Hillingdon's element of the Council Tax;
- 8 The Capital Programme for 2017/18 to 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 6 of the report to Cabinet, be approved;
- 9 The Housing Revenue Account budget proposals and housing rents set out in Appendix 7 of the report to Cabinet, be approved;
- 10 The proposed amendments to Fees and Charges set out in Appendix 8 of the report to Cabinet, be approved;
- 11 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2017/18 to 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 10 of the report to Cabinet, be approved;
- 12 The London Borough of Hillingdon Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 11 of the report to Cabinet, be approved;
- 13 The Housing Revenue Account Rent Policy as set out in Appendix 12 to the report to Cabinet, be approved and the Leader of the Council and relevant Cabinet portfolio Member be authorised to agree affordable rent levels on a scheme by scheme basis for newly acquired or built properties during the financial year;

- 14 Council formally opt in to the national scheme for appointing local authority auditors, as detailed in Appendix 13 of the report to Cabinet;**
- 15 The Corporate Director of Finance's comments regarding his responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2003, be noted;**
- 16 As set out in Schedule G of the Constitution - Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, Cabinet may utilise the general reserves or balances or approve virements between the General Fund budget, Housing Revenue Account budget or Capital budgets during the MTFF financial years 2017/18 to 2021/22 in respect of those functions which have been reserved to Cabinet in Article 7 of the Constitution;**
- 17 Council confirm that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2017/18 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 and 'therefore' a referendum will not be triggered.**

#### **Council Tax Referendums**

8. Schedule 5 of the Localism Act 2011 inserted into the Local Government Finance Act 1992 Chapter 4ZA of Part 1 makes provision for a Council Tax referendum to be held if an authority increases its relevant basic amount of Council Tax in excess of principles determined by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. Section 41 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 amended Chapter 4ZA of Part 1 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 by imposing new obligations on the Council. These include a requirement that as soon as is reasonably practicable after determining that it is required to hold a referendum in relation to its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the financial year, the Council must notify that fact in writing to any body that has issued a levy or a special levy to it for the financial year.
9. The Secretary of State has determined the principles for the year 2017/18 under section 52ZC (1) of the Local Government Act 1992 that a Council Tax increase will be excessive if the authority's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2017/18 is 5% or more than 5% greater than its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2016/17. This 5% threshold for excessive increases includes the 3% additional flexibility available to local authorities with responsibility for providing adult social care.
10. The relevant basic amount of council tax as calculated is the same as the Band D Council Tax for Hillingdon and if the proposals within this report are approved there will be no increase in the Council Tax level between 2016/17 and 2017/18 and is therefore not excessive.



## **Financial Implications**

11. This is a financial report and the comments of Corporate Finance are contained throughout.

## **Legal Implications**

12. The full advice of the Borough Solicitor is set out in the Cabinet report. The Borough Solicitor confirms that the calculations set out in this report fully accord with all necessary statutory requirements.
13. As is mentioned in the body of the report, the Local Government Finance Act 1992 has been amended by both the Localism Act 2011 and section 41 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Local authorities are now required to hold a referendum if there is an increase in the relevant basic amount of Council Tax of 5%, or more than 5%, in 2017/18 compared to the relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2016/17.
14. The Cabinet's proposals for the 2017/18 Council Tax requirement, as set out in the attached report, do not require a referendum to be held and therefore the notification requirements set out in section 41 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act do not apply.
15. Members must have regard to section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. This provides that a Member who has not paid an amount due in respect of Council Tax for at least two months after it becomes payable, may not vote on matters concerning the level of Council Tax or the administration of it. Therefore any Council Members who are more than two months in arrears with their Council Tax payments must make a declaration to this effect at the beginning of the Council meeting.

Background Documents: None

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