



HILLINGDON
LONDON



Council

To: All Members of the Council

Date: THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER
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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Putting our residents first

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Phase II, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW
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Agenda

Prayers

To be said by Reverend Johnny Douglas

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Minutes 1 - 8
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2017 (*attached*)
- 3 Declarations of Interest
To note any declarations of interest in any matter before the Council
- 4 Mayor's Announcements
- 5 Public Question Time 9 - 10
To take questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.
- 6 Report of the Head of Democratic Services 11 - 16
- 7 Members' Questions 17 - 18
To take questions submitted by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11
- 8 Motions 19 - 20
To consider Motions submitted by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12

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Agenda Item 2

Minutes

COUNCIL

7 September 2017

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



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

	<p>MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>Councillors: Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana Jas Dhot Mo Khursheed Lynne Allen Jem Duducu Kuldeep Lakhmana Teji Barnes Janet Duncan Richard Lewis Jonathan Bianco Beulah East Douglas Mills Mohinder Birah Ian Edwards Richard Mills Wayne Bridges Tony Eginton Peter Money Tony Burles Duncan Flynn John Morse Keith Burrows Neil Fyfe June Nelson Roy Chamdal Janet Gardner Susan O'Brien Alan Chapman Narinder Garg John Oswell George Cooper Dominic Gilham Jane Palmer Judith Cooper Raymond Graham Ray Puddifoot MBE Philip Corthorne Becky Haggart Robin Sansarpuri Brian Crowe John Hensley David Simmonds CBE Peter Curling Henry Higgins Jagjit Singh Catherine Dann Patricia Jackson Brian Stead Peter Davis Phoday Jarjussey Jan Sweeting Nick Denys Allan Kauffman Michael White Kanwal Dheer Judy Kelly David Yarrow Jazz Dhillon Manjit Khatra</p>
	<p>OFFICERS PRESENT: Fran Beasley, Jean Palmer, Paul Whaymand, Tony Zaman, Raj Alagh, Lloyd White, Mark Braddock, Morgan Einon, Beth Rainey and Nikki O'Halloran</p>
17.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Eddie Lavery, Michael Markham, John Riley and Scott Seaman-Digby.</p>
18.	<p>MINUTES (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2017 be agreed as a correct record.</p>
19.	<p>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The Mayor announced that, to date, she had now attended more than 100 engagements including, since the last Council meeting, the funeral of Dunkirk veteran, Gunner Peter Chesney, at Breakspear Crematorium. The funeral had been attended</p>

	<p>by more than 100 people, including British Legion bikers and 10 standard bearers.</p> <p>The Mayor encouraged those present to attend her next charity quiz night on Wednesday 13 September 2017 where any money raised would be match funded by Barclays.</p>
20.	<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>5.1 QUESTION FROM MS JEANNE SMITH OF STRATFORD ROAD, YEADING TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:</p> <p><i>"The Council's formal complaints procedure for handling complaints about services that the Council directly provides, is clear, open and transparent and it is easily understood by members of the public. Democratic Services can supply a hard copy of the procedure and it can be downloaded from the Council's website. The Council's formal complaints procedure follows the standard three stages of resolution adopted by all public bodies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Stage 1 at the lowest level,</i> <i>• Stage 2 at Director level when witness statements are admitted,</i> <i>• Stage 3 at The Chief Executive level.</i> <p><i>"Following that, a complaint can be escalated to the Ombudsman and that is the final stage of the formal complaints process.</i></p> <p><i>"The same set of clear, open and transparent standards, with set times for investigating, does not apply to complaints made to the Council by a resident, a non-resident, or a partner organisation, or any other body, that is deemed not to fall under the category of a 'formal complaint'.</i></p> <p><i>"Democratic Services cannot supply a copy of the due process and procedures followed by officers in investigating non-formal complaints. Neither is the due process and procedure available to download on the Council's website. Will the Council now urgently review the matter, to ensure that this grey area of complaints handling is seen to be fair, open and transparent with set timescales, that follows due process and procedures, and that is available to the public, via Democratic Services and the Council's website?"</i></p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot responded that, where complainants were not happy with the action taken by officers to resolve issues raised in an informal complaint, they were given the opportunity to have it dealt with through the formal procedure as detailed by Ms Smith in her question. The formal complaints procedure detailed the way in which the Council would deal with complaints informally and noted that it stipulated that complainants would be given response timescales. Councillor Puddifoot could not, therefore, agree with Ms Smith that this informal complaints procedure was not transparent.</p> <p>For information, Councillor Puddifoot reported that there had been 478 complaints received by the Council in 2016/2017. 68 of these had been escalated by the complainant to the Local Government Ombudsman and only 5 of these had been upheld. This equated to around 1% of complaints received.</p>
21.	<p>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>i) URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS</p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot moved the recommendations as set out in the report. This was</p>

	<p>seconded by Councillor Simmonds and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Urgency decisions detailed in the report be noted.</p> <p>ii) REVIEW OF COUNCIL CONSTITUTION - RESIDENTS' SERVICES SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS AND STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY</p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot moved the recommendations as set out in the report. This was seconded by Councillor Simmonds and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That for all functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005, the Residents Services Scheme of Delegations, (Administrative, Technical & Business Support section) be amended to include the following wording:</p> <p>"Where a Ward Councillor makes representations upon an application within the ward, in writing, to the Head of Administrative, Technical and Business Services within the appropriate statutory period of consultation for the application, that application shall be submitted to the Licensing Sub-Committee for determination. The Ward Councillor must include in their representations the reasons why they wish the application to be determined by the Sub-Committee."</p> <p>In addition the role of the Ward Councillor within the Statement of Licensing Policy be amended accordingly.</p>
22.	<p>ACCESSIBLE HILLINGDON - SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (Agenda Item 7)</p> <p>Councillor Burrows moved the recommendation as set out in the report. This was seconded by Councillor Corthorne and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the 'Accessible Hillingdon' Supplementary Planning Document be adopted with immediate effect for planning policy purposes.</p>
23.	<p>ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION TO PROTECT STRATEGIC EMPLOYMENT LAND IN THE BOROUGH (Agenda Item 8)</p> <p>Councillor Burrows moved the recommendation as set out in the report. This was seconded by Councillor Bianco and, following debate (Councillor Duncan), it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the results of the consultation be noted and the commencement of the Article 4 Direction from 22 November 2017, be approved.</p>
24.	<p>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Agenda Item 9)</p> <p>9.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR FLYNN TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES - COUNCILLOR SIMMONDS:</p> <p><i>"Will the Cabinet Member please consider the introduction of a playing out scheme in Hillingdon?"</i></p> <p>Councillor Simmonds advised that the playing out scheme enabled residents to close a road (or a group of roads) for the purpose of allowing local children to play safely in</p>

the street away from the traffic for a fixed and defined period of time on a regular basis. Residents could apply to the Council to request legal permission and powers to do this in the same way as they might if they wanted to organise, for example, a street party.

The scheme had been implemented in a number of other local authorities, notably in Bristol and some other London boroughs, and had proven to be both very successful and extremely popular with local residents as it had enabled children to cycle and skateboard safely in streets that were normally the scene of busy traffic. The scheme had also had a positive impact on building the coherence of communities; bringing together neighbours who might not otherwise meet each other. This positive impact had prompted a number of residents to ask whether Hillingdon might consider the scheme.

Councillor Simmonds had initiated discussions with the Deputy Chief Executive in relation to the introduction of a playing out scheme in the Borough. He offered to update Members as the process of consultation commenced and advised that the scheme would form part of the administration's commitment for the election manifesto in 2018.

There was no supplementary question.

9.3 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HIGGINS TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:

"Would the Leader of the Council please provide an update on the situation regarding the future of the Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre?"

Councillor Puddifoot was aware that this had been a matter of concern for Councillors Palmer and Higgins as well as the residents of Harefield and the young people of the Borough for some time. He thanked the Ward Councillors for their hard work on this issue over the past three years.

The High Speed 2 Act that received Royal Assent in February had confirmed that the route from London to Birmingham would travel directly through the HOAC site on a large viaduct. Both HOAC and the Council had robustly maintained that HOAC could not coexist with HS2 on its current site. After long deliberations, this had finally been accepted and an alternative site identified at Denham quarry.

A planning application had been submitted in June 2016 with the aspiration of having the new facilities in place by October 2018. HS2 had estimated that the new facility would cost £26½m and had agreed to pay that sum. Shortly after submission of the planning application, HS2 announced that it had reworked the costings as £56m and the Secretary of State had written to HOAC informing them that the scheme was too expensive and that HOAC would need to continue to operate on its current site. Councillor Puddifoot had suggested that the Council be given £26½m and it would complete the project but this idea had been rejected.

However, with the assistance of Boris Johnson MP and Nick Hurd MP, the project was now back on the agenda. Discussions had recommenced with Council officers who had worked tirelessly through multiple drafts of the proposed agreement. A final agreement had been signed on 17 August and £26½m funding had been secured. Councillor Puddifoot had asked Councillor Bianco to proceed with the provision of facilities for HOAC in the Denham quarry or elsewhere. HS2's dithering had made

this an enormous task but HOAC now had a realistic chance of being able to continue. This would not have been possible without the unwavering support of this Council and local residents.

There was no supplementary question. Councillor Higgins thanked officers for their hard work on this issue.

9.4 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR STEAD TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PROPERTY AND BUSINESS SERVICES - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:

"Can the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services please tell me how the Borough has done in this year's Green Flag awards?"

Councillor Bianco advised that Hillingdon had achieved 47 Green Flags this year, 48 including Stockley Park - the highest number in the UK. These had been evenly distributed across the north and south of the Borough. This was a testament to the work of officers and volunteers throughout the Borough who had enabled residents to enjoy these green spaces. Councillor Bianco was proud of this achievement and advised that he and the Mayor would be raising the flag in Brunel Ward in the next month.

There was no supplementary question.

9.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PALMER TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES - COUNCILLOR SIMMONDS:

"Could the Cabinet Member please provide an update following the Children's Centre review?"

Councillor Simmonds reminded Members that the Council had embarked upon a review of children's centre provision which had led to petitions from the public and a number of commitments being given by the administration. The Council had sought to demonstrate that it was taking account of what was being said by the interested parties, including Councillors Palmer and Higgins who had made very clear representations about the role of the children's centre in Harefield which had led to it being designated as the lead centre as part of the review process.

When this issue had last been debated in the Chamber, the Council had been about to commence the process of taking on the direct management of the children's centres. This had now been completed and staff that had previously worked for a variety of different organisations had now all transferred to the direct line management and employment of the Council.

As was promised at the time, a BID review of the children's centres had been undertaken to seek to make the service as efficient as possible. This BID review had identified a number of inconsistencies in service provision to residents across the variety of different children's centres.

Following the BID review process, changes had been agreed for implementation with a view to ensuring that there was a consistently high-quality and standard of service across all children centres operating in the Borough and ensuring that the Council continued to learn from residents' experience. For example, the Council was currently

	<p>in discussions with the NHS to expand the number of clinics that were run for very young children in a number of children's centre premises so that parents with young children, who might be finding it difficult to access baby clinics, weighing, etc, would be more easily able to access that kind of service. Councillor Simmonds would be pleased to update Members further about progress in due course.</p> <p>There was no supplementary question.</p>
25.	<p>MOTIONS (<i>Agenda Item 10</i>)</p> <p>10.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EAST</p> <p>Councillor East moved, and Councillor Eginton seconded, the following motion:</p> <p><i>"That this Council calls upon the Leader to write to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, supporting the National Joint Council Pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the Pay spine review."</i></p> <p>Following debate (Councillors Allen, Corthorne and Simmonds), the motion was put to a recorded vote:</p> <p>Those voting for: Councillors Allen, Birah, Burles, Curling, Dheer, Dhillon, Dhot, Duncan, East, Eginton, Gardner, Garg, Jarjussey, Khatra, Khursheed, Lakhmana, Money, Morse, Nelson, Oswell, Sansarpuri, Singh and Sweeting.</p> <p>Those voting against: The Mayor (Councillor Melvin), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Morgan), 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, Hensley, Higgins, Jackson, Kauffman, Kelly, Lewis, D Mills, R Mills, O'Brien, Palmer, Puddifoot, Simmonds, Stead, White and Yarrow.</p> <p>Those abstaining: None.</p> <p>The motion was lost.</p> <p>10.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DHILLON</p> <p>Councillor Dhillon moved, and Councillor Duncan seconded the following motion:</p> <p><i>"That this Council is concerned that building control abuses by private companies appears to be increasing, including within our borough. The Council therefore calls upon the Leader to make these concerns known to the government and request that a more rigorous oversight of these companies be enacted."</i></p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot moved, and Councillor Bianco seconded an amendment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove the words "by private companies" in the first sentence. • remove the words "these companies" in the second sentence and replace with the words "building control". <p>Following debate (Councillor Dhillon), the amended motion was put to the vote and carried. Following further debate (Councillor Duncan), the substantive motion was</p>

	<p>then put to the vote and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this Council is concerned that building control abuses appear to be increasing, including within our borough. The Council therefore calls upon the Leader to make these concerns known to the government and request that a more rigorous oversight of building control be enacted.</p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.35 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.

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QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

5.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY MR CHRIS WATERS OF FERRERS AVENUE, WEST DRAYTON TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:

Would the Council Leader be willing to adopt a better approach to “putting residents first”, by way of implementing a less formal system of interaction between the residents and those making the decisions within the Council, which will allow the residents to table concerns in a more social environment?

Supporting Information Provided:

Having watched the Council meeting of 19th January 2017 I paid particular attention to a motion put forward by Councillor Curling regarding the petition process and the time frame from decision making to implementation by looking at ways to improve reduce delivery time and the fact that the motion was lost, it made me wonder, are all the residents actually being put first?

I bring three major and recent instances to your attention:

1. The Children's Centre “Business Improvement Delivery” consultation showed the majority of responses against the changes including the cases put forward by 9 petitioners and a protest. However, the Council seemed to have predetermined the outcome as it is all down to saving money and no further discussions and engagements were entertained.
2. Planning applications for over 2000 units along a mile between Yiewsley & West Drayton have been approved despite numerous concerns & complaints raised by residents. No formal feedback to residents is issued, no concerns are addressed by way of implementation of improvements and even to address concerns to the planning committee, I was told that “residents can petition the committee giving them speaking rights to address the committee”.
3. Regarding an email on 15th October 2017 from a Swan Road resident which included John McDonnell MP, regarding the speed in which vehicles travel, the Council wants facts and not rumours. The fact happened the night before – a drunken driver speeding up the road damaged 3 other vehicles mounting one onto the pavement. Luckily it was late at night else pedestrians could have been seriously injured. Whilst it may not be every car that speeds, it just takes one out of the handful that do, to result in injury or death.

Despite the fact that we do not seem to suffer the same levels of crime as our neighbouring Boroughs, the recent Get West London article (published on 18th October 2017) about the happiest Boroughs placed Hillingdon 27th with Harrow at 19th and Hounslow at 21st which is not much different from the same published by ITV last year.

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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. Since the 7 September 2017 Council meeting, the following decisions have been made using urgency procedures:

Date of Decision	Decision Type / Nature of Decision	Decision-Maker
04/09/2017	Transport for London (TfL) Local Implementation Plan (LIP) 2017/18	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
07/09/2017	School Governing Body Constitution - Instrument of Government - Abbotsfield School change of name to Oak Wood School	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services
07/09/2017	Acceptance of Tender for Unattended Mobile CCTV System and Cameras	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce & Regeneration
18/09/2017	Housing Revenue Account Works to Stock Programme 2017/18 - Fire safety works to building fabric of Rabbs Mill House, Uxbridge and Fitzgerald House, Glenister House and Wellings House, Hayes and associated Capital Release (Release No. 27).	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
20/09/2017	Housing Revenue Account New General Needs Housing Stock 2017/18 (Housing Buy Back Scheme) Release No. 3.	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
22/09/2017	Housing Revenue Account New General Needs Housing Stock 2017/18 (Housing Buy Back Scheme) Release No. 4.	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
22/09/2017	CCTV Programme 2017/18: CCTV Mobile Camera Expansion	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services

Date of Decision	Decision Type / Nature of Decision	Decision-Maker
22/09/2017	Acquisition of the Former British Legion Site, Station Road, West Drayton for Affordable Housing and Associated Capital Release - PART II	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
25/09/2017	The Housing Infrastructure Fund	Leader of the Council / Cabinet Members for Finance, Property & Business Services / Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing / Planning, Transportation & Recycling
28/09/2017	School Capital Programme Update and waiver of call-in on delegated authority regarding the School Condition Programme Phase 2	Cabinet
29/09/2017	Appointment of contractor for roofing and drainage improvement works at Grange Park Infant and Junior Schools and associated Capital Release	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Decision Notices

(ii) MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES 2017/2018

RECOMMENDATIONS: That

- a) Council appoint a new, independent Chairman of the Audit Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee (*to follow*)
- b) That, upon the recommendation of the Labour Group, the following change be made to Committee Memberships 2017/18:

Residents' and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee - Councillor Allen to replace Councillor Dhot.

Background Information - Audit Committee

1. A vacancy has arisen for the role of independent Chairman of the Audit Committee. Council is asked to consider the recommendation of the Audit Committee for the appointment of a new Chairman. The Committee will be meeting on 31 October to consider the appointment and, therefore, a recommendation is *to follow*.
2. In accordance with government guidance such a person should only be considered for the position if he or she;
 - has not been a Member or an officer of the local authority / public body within five years before the date of the appointment
 - is not a Member or an officer of that or any other relevant authority

- is not a relative or a close friend of a Member or an officer of the body / authority
 - has been approved by a majority of the Members of the Council
 - has responded to an advert for the position which has been advertised in the local area
3. The position of independent Chairman currently attracts a Special Responsibility Allowance of £2,975.49p.a.

(iii) REVIEW OF COUNCIL CONSTITUTION - PENSIONS BOARD

RECOMMENDATION: That the changes to the operation of the Pensions Board, as set out in paragraph 8 of this report, be approved.

Information

1. On 6 November 2014 Council approved the establishment of a Hillingdon Local Pension Board, in accordance with the Public Services Pensions Act 2013.
2. The Terms of Reference of the Pensions Board currently read as follows:
 - (i) The Pensions Board will be chaired by an elected Member of the Council and will meet quarterly in the month following Pensions Committee.
 - (ii) Reports to the Board will either reflect decisions taken by Pensions Committee or be reports for noting already seen by Pensions Committee.
 - (iii) The role of the Board will be to assist London Borough of Hillingdon Administering Authority as Scheme Manager: to secure compliance with the LGPS regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS;
 - (iv) To secure compliance with requirements imposed in relation to the LGPS by the Pensions Regulator; and in such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify.
 - (v) To secure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the LGPS for the London Borough of Hillingdon Pension Fund.
 - (vi) To provide the Scheme Manager with such information as it requires to ensure that any member of the Pension Board or person to be appointed to the Pension Board does not have a conflict of interest. (NB: Being a member of the LGPS is not seen as a conflict of interest.)
3. The main purpose of the Board is to assist the Administering Authority in its role as a scheme manager of the Pension Scheme. Such assistance is described under two key headings to:
 - i) Secure compliance with the Regulations, any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme, and requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and;
 - ii) To ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme.
4. The Board is not a Council committee and was established to assist the Council as an Administering Authority of a Local Government Pension Scheme to ensure effective and efficient governance and administration; in this role is it required to scrutinise the role of the Pensions Committee in its function to carry out the funding strategy and investment strategy, on behalf of the employers of

the scheme and scheme members. This means a level of independence is required for the Board from the elected Members in carrying out this role.

5. All Pension Board members are required to be conversant with the rules of the scheme and have a knowledge of the law relating to pensions. To ensure compliance with this CIPFA have a knowledge and Skills framework to identify training needs for the Board. Some of the current board members have not fully engaged in the training requirements.
6. The membership of the Board currently comprises:
 - 3 elected Members (2 Con' & 1 Lab') as employer representatives
 - 3 employee/scheme member representatives (one of the positions is currently vacant due to retirement).
7. The membership requirements for pension boards are:
 - Membership must consist of an equal number of scheme member representative and employer representatives.
 - There must be a minimum of 4 people on the board.
 - The people designated as employer representatives must have the capacity to represent employers and those designated as employee representatives must have capacity to represent scheme members.
 - No officer or elected Member responsible for discharge of duties in relation to the pension fund can sit on the pension board.

A study of pension board structures across London shows that the majority of councils have 4 members in total - 2 employer and 2 employee representatives. Only 3 boroughs have all employer reps as councillors and a third of boroughs have no councillor members at all. The majority of funds have Admitted Body representation on their board as employer representatives.

8. The Board has now been in operation for over two years and it is recommended that the following changes be made to improve the overall effectiveness of the Board which is not officially a Council Committee as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 and has no corporate status or decision making powers:
 - The membership of the Board be amended to comprise 2 employer and 2 employee representatives with no Councillors automatically appointed to sit on the Board;
 - Applications for the employer representatives will be invited from a) the Council (Members will be entitled to apply for this position should they so wish) and b) all other employer bodies contributing to the fund - and then selected at interview by the Chairman and one other Member of the Pensions Committee and a Senior Officer, on the basis of capacity and/or experience;
 - The requirement for a Councillor to Chair the meetings of the Board be removed and the terms of reference be amended accordingly;
 - The frequency of the meetings be determined by the Board and the terms of reference be amended accordingly.

Legal Implications.

The Borough Solicitor confirms that it is lawful for full Council to agree the proposed changes to the Pensions Board as outlined in paragraph 8 above.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

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QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

7.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR LAVERY TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES - COUNCILLOR SIMMONDS:

Can the Cabinet Member say how many children gained a place at their school of choice in Hillingdon in this year's admissions?

7.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR GARDNER TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR PUDDIFOOT:

In addition to the recommendations of the Social Services, Housing and Public Health POC's review into housing benefit and with specific regard to Universal Credit, can the Leader of the Council / the relevant Cabinet Member work with the Job Centres to minimise any rent arrears that our residents may incur?

We should do this by Council officers working with Job Centre Plus staff to encourage vulnerable residents to pay their rent direct to their landlord.

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MOTIONS

8.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR RILEY

That Council fully supports the submission made by the Administration to the MOPAC Draft Public Access and Engagement Strategy consultation document and notes the main concern from the proposed strategy of there being only one publicly accessible police station in a borough the size and shape of Hillingdon is not realistic and the proposed location is not in the interests of our residents.

Council acknowledges that, like Hillingdon Council, the Mayor of London has received reduced funding from central government. However, unlike Hillingdon who have put residents first and demonstrated that by managing finances and operating efficiently it is possible to avoid potentially damaging cuts to front line services, the Mayor has simply chosen the easy route of blaming the Government and saying that this is all that he can do.

Council agrees that the Mayor should reconsider his approach to this matter and review his proposals to ensure that our residents continue to receive a police service that works for them in the long term, not just a police function with a short term vision.

8.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR D.MILLS

That Council notes the publication by the Boundary Commission, for consultation purposes, of the proposed new parliamentary constituencies for England.

Council notes that the proposals for London include the creation of a new 'Hillingdon and Uxbridge' Constituency which includes two wards from the London Borough of Ealing; Northolt Mandeville and Northolt West End. Council further notes that the proposed new constituencies separate the Ruislip wards, thus continuing to ignore natural boundaries and community affiliations.

Council notes that the majority of responses by both individuals and organisations, including residents' associations, to the original Commission's proposals, were opposed to the inclusion of the two Northolt wards and in favour of joining together four Ruislip wards.

Council notes that, although the Boundary Commission must work within numbers as laid out by statute - that is that every constituency in England (except two covering the Isle of Wight) must have an electorate of between **71,031** and **78,507**, and, therefore, any proposal to amend the make-up of the proposed new constituencies will have an effect on the make-up of neighbouring constituencies, there are, in fact, a number of possible alternatives available to achieve a better outcome whilst still meeting the parameters set out above.

Council, therefore, authorises the Head of Democratic Services in conjunction with the Leader of the Council, to respond with a counter proposal to establish three Constituencies, of which two will consist entirely of Hillingdon wards, recognising the fact that there is no natural boundary or affiliation to justify the

inclusion of Northolt Mandeville and Northolt West End Wards within the proposed Hillingdon and Uxbridge Constituency and that meets the wishes of the community for keeping the Ruislip wards together.

8.3 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DUNCAN

That this Council is concerned that recent evidence has shown that Housing Benefit is not always delivered by the Council in a way that encourages people to start, resume or continue work.

Further to the Council's recent review of Housing Benefits and recommendations approved by Cabinet this Council therefore agrees that the monitoring and management system of Housing Benefit should include delivery timescales, once all documentation is in place to enable determinations to be made. This would help to provide clarity, improve efficiency, save money, avoid evictions and encourage people to start or continue working. Council therefore requests Cabinet to consider this matter and make the appropriate changes

8.4 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MORSE

That, to clarify the conflicting reports about the potential to develop Northolt as a Commercial airport, the Council authorise the Chief Executive to undertake the following actions:

- 1) seek legal advice to confirm the MOD has authority to increase commercial flights at Northolt.
- 2) propose the introduction of Public Safety Zones around the airport to provide modern safety measures that are an improvement on safeguarding planning rules.
- 3) open consultation with the MOD about what developments are taking place at Northolt, to clarify if the development is for the operational needs of the RAF which does not need planning permission, and to identify development that supports commercial operations needing planning permission.
- 4) consult with the MOD about environmental concerns raised by residents as the ARK report commissioned by the MOD talks about initially raising aircraft movements to 20,000 and then leasing the airport to a commercial company with the potential for 50,000 aircraft movements.
- 5) negotiate with the MOD to seek a reduction to 5,000 movements for commercial aircraft at Northolt to improve the environment.