

## Minutes

### RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

24 January 2018

Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



	<p><b>Committee Members Present:</b> Councillors Michael White (Chairman), Michael Markham (Vice-Chairman), Tony Burles, Patricia Jackson, Allan Kauffman, Brian Stead, Jazz Dhillon and John Morse ( in place of Lynne Allen)</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b> Val Beale (Environmental Specialist, Planning Specialist Team), Bill Hickson (Anti-Social Behaviour and Environment Team Manager), Edward Davis (Senior ASB and Environment Officer), Steve Hajioff ( Director of Public Health), Dan Kennedy (Deputy Director, Housing, Environment, Education, Health &amp; Wellbeing and Residents Services), Gregory Pike (Finance Manager), Carolyn Station (Finance Business Partner) and Brian Colyer (Operations/FM and Contracts Manager)</p> <p><b>Also present:</b> Ana Grossinho ( Air Quality Expert)</p>
35.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Judy Kelly.</p> <p>Apologies were also received from Cllr Kuldeep Lakhmana, with Cllr Jazz Dhillon substituting and Cllr Lynne Allen, with Cllr John Morse substituting.</p>
36.	<p><b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
37.	<p><b>TO CONFIRM THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT ANY ITEMS MARKED PART 2 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>It was confirmed that all items on the agenda would be considered in public.</p>
38.	<p><b>TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on 21 November 2017 were agreed as an accurate record.</p>

39. **DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS REPORT FOR RESIDENTS SERVICES 2018/19**  
(Agenda Item 5)

The Committee considered a report on the draft revenue budget and capital programme for the services within the remit of the Residents Policy Overview Committee 2018/19, along with indicative projections for the following four years.

Following consideration by the Cabinet on 14 December 2017, these proposals were under consultation and discussed at each Policy Overview Committee. The proposals were next due to be considered by Cabinet on 15 February 2018 and the report would include comments from the Policy Overview Committees. Following that meeting of Cabinet, full Council would meet on 22 February 2018 to agree the budgets and council tax for 2018/19.

Overall, it was reported that despite the Council continuing to operate within the constraints of Government's deficit reduction programme, in addition to continuing demographic and demand pressures, the London Borough of Hillingdon still retained healthy balances. The Council was still also able to freeze council tax.

The report gave details of the savings proposals to meet the budget gaps and respond to the increases in costs pressures and contingency plans for development and risk. Officers gave a verbal summary of the key details.

The Council's financial performance during 2017/18 remained strong with an under spend of £980k projected across revenue budgets and £14,460k of the £15,508k savings programmed either already banked or on track for delivery.

Locally raised income from council tax and business rates was expected to grow by £4,905k as a result of strength in tax bases. This would however be off-set by a reduction in government funding.

£250k of the sum for Priority Growth remained uncommitted at this stage but the remainder consisted of the following areas:

- £1000k resources committed to meeting capital financing costs associated with the Council's flagship schools expansion programme;
- £576k to support an operation for a new Waste and Recycling centre;
- £250k per annum funding for the Metropolitan Police station to continue the operation of Uxbridge Police Station;
- £200k support for an expanded youth offer from the Council;
- £200k additional funding for Counter Fraud Activity to ensure the Council protects its finances; and
- £139k further growth for the expanded Museums and Archives Service in addition to the £140k allocated in 2017/18.

During Member discussion, it was reported:

- A suggested site had been identified for Yiewsley swimming pool but had not yet been finalised or agreed.
- A suggested site had also been identified for a waste and recycling centre, but the details of this had not yet been finalised.
- For both of these sites there was a budget available and also contingency plans if the budget overran.
- The government had imposed a reduction that enabled the Council's Housing

Revenue Account budgets to be prepared to deliver a 1% reduction in rents for existing tenants in 2018/19.

- Previous targets had been met in relation to creating 545 affordable homes for residents by 2022/23 and these figures would be circulated to Members.

Some Members indicated that further changes would be suggested at the Council budget meeting.

Overall, the Committee supported the budget but appreciated that there were some issues in financing.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) **The Committee agreed that there was some good work being undertaken to benefit residents in areas such as the schools expansion programme, music services and adult education. This would be good for the health and well-being of residents.**
- 2) **The Committee thanked officers for their input and efforts.**

40. **MAJOR REVIEW 2017-18 - REVISION OF AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN FOR THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON- WITNESS SESSION AND DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS** (*Agenda Item 6*)

The Committee welcomed the following witnesses to the major review witness session:

**Car parking charges**

The Committee was provided with details on differential parking charges for different vehicles (diesel/petrol/electric). There were several local authorities with different schemes ranging from free parking permits for low emission vehicles to increased surcharges for diesel vehicles.

Officers outlined details of the work done in Merton Council which considered Merton's Air Quality Parking Project. Some of the changes introduced included residents being issued parking permits and businesses being subjected to a surcharge if they had diesel engine vehicles. A reduced fee was also being introduced for permits for residents that used electric vehicles.

The Committee discussed the possibility of introducing a similar system. It was acknowledged that the London Borough of Hillingdon had a number of industries and home owners that used diesel vehicle cars. This was a national issue which needed to be implemented all over the country. There was also a concern that residents on low incomes would be affected as they may not be able to afford to replace petrol cars with diesel cars.

**Focus areas and monitoring strategies**

The Committee was provided with detailed information on air quality monitoring around the Borough. Maps were also provided at the meeting to assist Members to visualise the coverage.

Discussion took place and it was reported that the south of the Borough had the most continued monitoring. Diffusion tubes could be used to monitor air quality and focus areas such as Hayes and Ruislip were identified.

Discussion also took place around whether traffic lights and roundabouts caused more pollution. It was reported that if the speed was low, emissions tended to be higher but a number of factors were taken into account. Results about air quality in focus areas were shared with the planning departments. There was a general consensus that in order to manage these issues nationally, the government and manufacturers needed to work together. There was no assumption that Hillingdon could get rid of pollution but had strong strategies in place to manage pollution.

### **Public Health implications of poor air quality**

The Committee was provided with information on the impacts of air pollution on health.

It was reported that there were a number of pollutants but the main ones of concern were ground level ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon dioxide. The health impacts were diverse in that there could be short and long terms effects. A number of proven effective strategies were in place to manage pollution which included the reduction of emission from coal fired power plants, banning the use of polluting fuels in urban centres and improvements to access public transportation.

Discussion took place on how the Borough could best manage this issue and it was reported that ending the sale of new concentration petrol and diesel cars could help in reducing the emissions of damaging air pollutants.

### **Local Authority Pollution, Prevention and Control**

The Committee heard information about how industries are regulated to reduce pollution and the relevant legislation applicable. It was reported that the permits were issued to set controls and emission standards to minimise pollution from certain industrial activities. The main source of toxic air pollutants from dry cleaners was the solvent used in the cleaning process. Details were provided about how certain air pollutants polluted the environment.

### **Council's Fleet of vehicles and reductions in energy**

The Committee was provided with information on the Council's fleet of vehicles and reductions in energy. It was informed that the Council spent approximately £500k on electricity in the civic centre. In June LED lighting was implemented in the Civic centre which replaced 1,100 fittings and was projected to save the Council at least £29 k per annum.

The Council was working with its energy suppliers to update its meeting infrastructure with new automatic meter reading meters. This would assist in reducing emissions from vehicles. New building adaptations also had to meet energy efficient requirements.

A new fleet manager had been appointed. Overall, CRC emissions had fallen by 19% since the 2014-2015 reporting year.

### **Recommendations**

Prior to the meeting, Members were provided with ideas for suggested recommendations. The Committee discussed these ideas and made a number of recommendations. These recommendations will be refined and circulated to Members for approval in due course.

	<p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p><b>1. That the witnesses be thanked for the evidence submitted and the information be used as part of the review.</b></p>
41.	<p><b>FORWARD PLAN</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Members asked for further information on Environmental Cleaning Contract.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED-</b></p> <p><b>1. That the forward plan be noted</b>  <b>2. That a briefing paper be provided to the Committee on the Environmental Cleaning Contract.</b></p>
42.	<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b> (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <p>The work programme was noted. The major review item final report would be prepared for the meeting on 27 March 2018.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED - That the work programme be noted.</b></p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 5.30 pm, closed at 7.08 pm.</p>

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Anisha Teji on 01895 277655. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.