

## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 February 2019

Meeting held at Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge



HILLINGDON  
LONDON

	<p><b>Committee Members Present:</b> Henry Higgins (Chairman), John Riley (Vice-Chairman), Simon Arnold, Wayne Bridges, Nick Denys, Peter Money, John Morse and Tony Little (Representative Member for Education Issues)</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b> Mark Braddock (Democratic Services)</p>
44.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO REPORT THE PRESENCE OF ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Councillor Peter Curling.</p>
45.	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>No interests were declared by Members present.</p>
46.	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2019</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2019 were agreed as a correct record.</p>
47.	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>Items were considered and public and private as set out on the Cabinet agenda.</p>
48.	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN AND ANY CALL-INS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Members gave consideration to the Cabinet reports of the 14 February 2019 meeting and the decisions made by Cabinet on them earlier that evening.</p> <p>It was noted that the Council's Budget could not be called in, as this was a policy framework document and automatically referred by Cabinet to full Council for consideration on 21 February.</p> <p>Furthermore, it was noted that the call-in period on the Schools Budget 2019/20 had been waived by the Chairman of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, as requested by Cabinet, due to the short timescale for submitting the relevant school budget figures to the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Labour Members present expressed some concern over the use of the call-in and sought further clarification over the waiver process, which was duly provided by the Senior Democratic Services Manager and other Members present. Other matters raised on the Schools Budget included the effect on individual school budgets of the transfer of funds to the High Needs block to set a balanced budget. On this matter, Members noted that the pressures on high needs budgets had resulted from changes in legislation and a lack of Government</p>

funding, and in Hillingdon, irrespective of the transfer of funds, overall individual schools budgets would still increase from the previous year.

Members considered the report into academic attainment and concurred with the comments made by the Residents, Education and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee. The ethnicity of those in receipt of home education was discussed and Members sought further figures on this. Clarification was sought on the proportion of Hillingdon students taking 'A'-level and technical education compared to national figures. Finally, Members asked for an explanation on why Key Stage 2 combined Reading, Writing and Maths had worsened in Hillingdon since 2016/17.

**RESOLVED: – That the decisions made by the Cabinet at their meeting on 14 February 2019 be endorsed and that no call-in be made.**

The meeting, which commenced at 7.35 pm, closed at 8.05 pm.

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Mark Braddock, Statutory Scrutiny Officer. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.