

## Minutes

### VIRTUAL CABINET

7pm - Thursday, 21 May 2020

Meeting broadcast live on the Council's YouTube channel, [Hillingdon London](#)



Decisions published on: 21 May 2020

Decisions come into effect on: 29 May 2020\*

#### **Cabinet Members Present:**

Ray Puddifoot MBE (Chairman)

Jonathan Bianco (Vice-Chairman)

Philip Corthorne

Douglas Mills

Keith Burrows

Richard Lewis

Susan O'Brien

Jane Palmer

Duncan Flynn (Ex-Officio Member of the Cabinet)

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Members were present for the virtual Cabinet meeting.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS BEFORE THIS MEETING**

No interests were declared by Members present.

#### **3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST CABINET MEETING**

The decisions and minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 12 March 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

#### **4. TO CONFIRM THAT THE ITEMS OF BUSINESS MARKED PART 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT THE ITEMS OF BUSINESS MARKED PART 2 IN PRIVATE**

It was confirmed that all business would be held in public.

## **5. HILLINGDON COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS**

### **RESOLVED:**

#### **That Cabinet:**

- 1. Welcomes the substantial effort by the Council and the community groups to deliver an unprecedented local response to support Hillingdon residents during the Coronavirus National Emergency;**
- 2. Requests the Deputy Chief Executive communicates the Cabinet's gratitude for the critical work by Council staff, particularly front-line workers during this time;**
- 3. Ratifies the Emergency Decisions taken by the Leader of the Council, as set out in the report, and for formal public record.**

#### **Reasons for decision**

The Leader of the Council introduced a special report which set out the extensive local response in Hillingdon to the COVID-19 pandemic to-date and the unparalleled operations that have taken place to ensure the continued delivery of essential public services to residents. It was welcomed that many services had successfully adapted and innovated, along with new services created from start, to support residents during the national emergency.

Whilst some popular events have been unfortunately cancelled, the Leader of the Council highlighted how key services and essential operations had continued for residents.

The Leader congratulated the extensive work led through a new community hub along with a new Food Delivery Team, co-ordinating support directly to more vulnerable and shielded residents, such as emergency food parcels, bespoke personal shopping and befriending telephone calls for those in isolation.

It was noted how the Council's had also supported local businesses during the pandemic, including payments of business support grants and the application of extended business rate relief.

Cabinet ratified a number of Emergency Power decisions taken by the Leader during the pandemic on key service and operational matters, as per constitutional requirements.

Individual Cabinet Members outlined how some of their service areas had performed during the pandemic, praising the library staff, social care workers, children safeguarding teams and domestic abuse efforts to name just a few.

The Cabinet expressed its gratitude to Council staff, local organisations and residents in coming together in an unprecedented way. The Leader of the Council

referred to the significant positive resident feedback received over the last few weeks and re-affirmed the Council's mission to continue to deliver quality local services and support residents whilst our society moves to better times ahead.

### **Alternative options considered and rejected**

The Council had duly considered different options when delivering services to residents during the pandemic, however, it was noted that the Council also had been required to follow UK Government advice, new emergency legislation and regulations across a wide variety of areas.

### **Officers to action:**

- Jean Palmer OBE, Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director of Residents Services
- Mark Braddock, Chief Executive's Office

### **Classification: Public**

*The report and any background papers relating to this decision by the Cabinet are available to view on the Council's website or by visiting the Civic Centre, Uxbridge.*

## **6. CARERS STRATEGY 2018-2020 UPDATE**

### **RESOLVED:**

#### **That Cabinet:**

- 1. Notes progress against the Carers Strategy delivery plan activity for 2019-20 and the work that the Council, its partners and Hillingdon Carers Partnership does to support those with caring responsibilities in the Borough.**
- 2. Approves the proposed approach to supporting Carers for the next two years as set out in the report.**

### **Reasons for decision**

Cabinet received an update on progress with implementing the 2018-2021 Carers' Strategy and specifically the 2019/20 Delivery Plan arising from it. Cabinet welcomed the vital contribution carers make in the Borough and noted that during the pandemic, including through the work of Hillingdon Carers, specific support was being provided to those in hardship.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing highlighted the work on carer engagement, training and awareness that had taken place, including setting out the priorities for the year ahead. Thanks were paid to the steadfast work of the Council's Carers' Champion, Councillor Becky Haggart.

## **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

### **Officer to action:**

Kate Kelly-Talbot - Social Care

### **Classification: Public**

*The report and any background papers relating to this decision by the Cabinet are available to view on the Council's website or by visiting the Civic Centre, Uxbridge.*

## **7. SELF-BUILD AND CUSTOM BUILD HOUSING (CHARGING & ELIGIBILITY) CRITERIA**

### **RESOLVED:**

**That the Cabinet:**

- 1. Approve the principle of introducing local eligibility criteria so that Hillingdon's Self-build and Custom Build Register can be split into two parts.**
- 2. Notes that an Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out into the Council's proposed local eligibility criteria and therefore approves a public consultation to be carried out on the following local eligibility criteria for joining Part 1 of the Register:**
  - a. Residency in the Borough for at least 10 years prior to the date of application; or**
  - b. In the service of the regular armed forces or have served in the armed forces within the previous 3 years prior to the date of application.**
  - c. Able to provide evidence of access to sufficient resources to purchase land of at least £225,000.**

**and**

  - d. For associations of individuals wishing to be added to the Hillingdon Self-build and Custom build Register, at least three-quarters of the members of the association must meet the local connection criteria above and be able to demonstrate that the association collectively has sufficient financial resources to purchase a plot large enough to accommodate its members.**
- 3. Approve public consultation on the national eligibility criteria for Part 2 of the Register, which requires the applicant to be:**
  - a. Over 18 years old; and**



**8. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN AGREES ARE RELEVANT OR URGENT**

No additional items were considered by the Cabinet.

The meeting closed at 7.43pm.

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**\*Internal Use only - implementation of decisions**

**All decisions:** Meeting after Virtual Cabinet, the Virtual Executive Scrutiny Committee did not call-in any of the Cabinet's decisions. Therefore, these decisions can be implemented by officers upon the expiry of the scrutiny call-in period which is from:

**5pm, Friday 29 May 2020.**

Officers to action the decisions are indicated in the minutes.

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This virtual meeting was broadcast live on the Council's YouTube channel [here](#) under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) (Regulations) 2020.

Please note that these minutes and decisions are the definitive record of proceedings by the Council of this meeting.

If you would like further information about the decisions of the Cabinet, please contact the Council below:

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To find out more about how the Cabinet works to put residents first, visit [here](#).