



HILLINGDON
LONDON



Council

To all Members of the Council

Date: THURSDAY, 10 JULY 2025

Time: 7.30 PM

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

**Meeting
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Putting our residents first

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Agenda

Prayers

To be said by the Reverend Lesley Goldsmith DL.

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Minutes 1 - 24
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February and 08 May 2025
(*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 25 - 26
To take questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with
Council Procedure Rule 10.
- 6 Report of the Head of Democratic Services 27 - 36
- 7 Members' Questions 37 - 38
To take questions submitted by Members in accordance with Council
Procedure Rule 11
- 8 Motions 39 - 40
To consider Motions submitted by Members in accordance with Council
Procedure Rule 12.

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	<p>mark the third anniversary of the outbreak of war. A number of groups had also visited the Mayor's Parlour including Lady Bankes School and children involved in a Safer Transport initiative.</p>
50.	<p>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>i) Urgent Implementation of Decisions</p> <p>Members noted the urgent decisions taken since the Council meeting in January 2025, as detailed in the report.</p> <p>ii) Amendment to Cabinet Portfolios</p> <p>Members noted the amended Portfolios as notified by the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>iii) Appointment of Statutory Officer</p> <p>Councillor Edwards moved, and Councillor Bianco seconded, the motion as set out on the Order of Business and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mr Lloyd White be appointed to the statutory role of Monitoring Officer of the Council. b) It be noted that Mr Daniel Toohey has been appointed to the post of interim Head of Legal Services and that the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make any necessary alterations to the roles and responsibilities of the above posts contained in the Constitution. <p>iv) Members' Allowances 2025/26</p> <p>Councillor Edwards moved, and Councillor Bianco seconded, the motion as set out on the Order of Business and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the current Members' Allowances Scheme be revoked as of 31 March 2025 and the new Scheme for 2025/26, as shown in the Appendix, be approved for implementation from 1 April 2025.</p>
51.	<p>LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Tuckwell moved, and Councillor Edwards seconded, the motion as set out on the Order of Business and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the revised Local Development Scheme be adopted with effect from 27 February 2025. b) delegated authority be given to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing & Growth to make minor and technical updates only to timetables within the Local Development Scheme, if necessary.
52.	<p>GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2025 / 2026 (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Councillor R Mills moved, and Councillor Gohil seconded, the suspension of Council procedure rule 14.4 to allow unlimited speaking time for the mover and seconder of the motion.</p>

RESOLVED: That the mover and seconder of the budget motion be allowed unlimited speaking time on this item.

Councillor Goddard moved, and Councillor Edwards seconded, the seventeen budget recommendations as set out on the Order of Business.

Councillor Mathers moved, and Councillor Curling seconded, the following objection amendment:

“In accordance with the Council Constitution, the Labour Group are moving an amendment to the Cabinet's budget recommendations in the form of an Objection.

“This objection is because the Cabinet's budget estimates are not sufficiently robust for the purposes of the budget calculations, as stated in the S151 Officer's 'Section 25' statement.

“This objection is specifically in regard to, but not exclusive to, the proposed scale / challenge of the savings programme and the proposal to introduce charges for the collection of Green Waste.

“Therefore, in accordance with the Conflict Resolution Procedure as set out in the Constitution, I move that Council resolves to object to this element of the proposed budget and instructs the Cabinet to reconsider the relevant plans or strategies.”

Those speaking in support of the Objection, thanked the officers for their support in scrutinising the proposed budget. The amendment had been put forward as the Labour Group had been unable to determine whether or not the budget was achievable as they did not have full access to the accounts. The Labour Group did not want to see the Council go bankrupt but the proposed savings targets seemed unachievable when the authority had only achieved an average of £13m in savings per year since 2016.

The £2.5m income generation figure for green waste collection seemed to have been plucked out of the air. The Conservative Group had voted in July 2023 to retain weekly collections and not charge for green waste. This proposal had followed the Administration's decision last year to reduce the frequency of green waste collections at certain times of the year. It was queried how Cabinet could have got it so wrong between December and now that they were having to rush through proposals to charge for green waste.

Although the Section 151 Officer had stated that the Council's reserves were adequate, they were not ample. It was suggested that the green waste proposal had not been properly thought out and, as such, Council agreeing to the amendment / objection would mean that the Cabinet would have to re-examine the budget proposals before bringing them back to Council again. The budget did not appear sufficiently transparent or robust.

The Conservative administration might try to blame the current Labour Government, but they were the ones that had set the previous budgets. It was suggested that they should not have focussed so much on trying to keep fees and charges below those of neighbouring authorities as this had left black holes in the budget. Although Council

Tax might be lower in Hillingdon than some other local authorities, the cost of parking permits and green waste collection would push up the overall cost of services. It would be difficult for the Council to avoid a Section 114 notice in the future.

Those speaking against the Objection stated that the demand on Council services continued to increase without being fully funded by the Government. The 'Objection' did not offer up any suggestions on what Cabinet could have proposed differently. Previous Labour amendments would have left the Council's reserves at £6.8m lower than current levels. The Council had reduced costs by taking action such as relocating Uxbridge Library and renegotiating the management of the Beck Theatre, both of which had been opposed by Labour.

It was suggested that the Labour Group would have called for a referendum to raise Council Tax above the 4.99% limit to help balance the budget. Many councils were struggling with 30 of them around the country requesting exceptional financial support.

The amendment, in the form of an Objection, was put to a recorded vote:

Those voting for: Councillors Abby, Basit, Burles, Curling, Dhot, Farley, Garelick, Garg, Gill, Islam, Judge, Kaur, Mand, Mathers, Nelson, Nelson-West, Punja, Sansarpuri, Singh and Sweeting.

Those voting against: The Mayor (Councillor Sullivan), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Corthorne), Councillors Ahmad-Wallana, Banerjee, Bennett, Bhatt, Bianco, Bridges, Burrows, Choubedar, Davies, Denys, Edwards, Goddard, Gohil, Higgins, Lavery, Lewis, Makwana, Martin, D Mills, R Mills, O'Brien, Palmer, Riley, Smallwood and Tuckwell.

Those abstaining: None.

The amendment was lost.

Those speaking in support of the original motion noted that local government financial pressures had been unprecedented and had been exacerbated by things such as increases in National Insurance (NI) and inflation. There had been a promise that the Government would cover the increased cost of NI for local government but, in reality, this had only covered 80% of the additional cost. Government funding was not enough - choices had to be made such as reforming the operating model, but councils were still facing increased challenges in relation to homelessness, increasing energy costs, etc. That said, the Council had continued to invest in housing, highways and leisure services for its residents.

Health and Social Care had been facing significant financial challenges and an increased demand for services. Despite these pressures, Adult Social Care (ASC) had been rated as 'Good' in a recent CQC inspection. Hospital discharge and reablement were working well and the teams were well respected in North West London. The ASC service provision had been developed and improved, digital technology had been introduced to help residents, and partnerships had been strengthened.

In January 2025, Early Years Foundation took over the early years nurseries in the Borough which had released Council buildings for long term leases. New collaborations had been established in the South Ruislip, Hayes & Harlington and

Uxbridge Family Hubs and the next generation Youth Offer had been launched. The Family Hubs were also being used to provide online services and a second new youth bus was currently on order.

Consideration was being given to the exorbitant cost of placements and a new foster care package had been introduced. Action was being taken to provide high quality learning environments and to look at school sufficiency as there were around 71k children and young people under 18 years of age in Hillingdon.

It was noted that the Council was spending residents' money so it was important to charge as little as possible. It had been the decision made by the Labour Chancellor that had put the Council in such a difficult position. Despite this, the Council had continued to invest in parks and libraries, the Chrysalis fund had been used for local initiatives and a new leisure centre had been developed in Yiewsley and West Drayton.

The Council had bought or developed more than 200 homes and had completed major SEND projects. The Hayes Regeneration Scheme would be due for completion in the next financial year and would include more than 100 homes in the first phase. Kitchens, bathrooms, fire doors and windows had been replaced in hundreds of Council properties. Gas checks had been undertaken in 8,613 Council properties, almost 1,400 boilers had been replaced and 248 adaptations had been completed (comprising 317 elements). £1m had also been spent on fixing the roofs of five schools.

It was noted that Merton had the largest deficit in relation to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). Members were reminded that they were talking about taxpayers' money, not their own money – Labour would have increased taxes if they had been in power and would have hoarded residents' money rather than investing it in services. Although Cabinet had proposed a balanced budget, tough decisions had been made and plans had been put in place to ensure that reserve levels could be doubled. The Administration had chosen not to request financial support from Government as this would have resulted in priorities being shelved.

Hillingdon had the second lowest Council Tax in outer London, some of the lowest fees and charges, new libraries, free waste and recycling every week, more award-winning open spaces than other councils and reports of fly tipping were usually dealt with within a day. It was questioned whether the Labour Members were the unhappy residents that they referred to and queried why they spoke so favourably about Ealing where they would pay more in Council Tax.

Whilst concerns about the Council's financial position were understood, action was being taken to ensure financial stability whilst providing the same or better services at a lower cost. The responsibility for budget accountability was being delegated to Directors and financial accounting would deliver insight. The world was currently an uncertain place with no idea how changes would impact on the European economy or on local government funding.

The 2025 Government spending review would highlight local authority funding and distribution amongst councils but the funding model was fundamentally broken. Although other boroughs had a higher core spending power than Hillingdon, Ealing had been given £21.798m in Revenue Support Grant, Hounslow has been given £12.177m and Hillingdon had been given £8.66m (despite having 10% more residents than Hounslow). Contingency provisions had been included in the Council's budget to

mitigate risk but the authority would still need to build its reserves.

There had been an 82% increase in demand for care home places since 2015/16 and a 30% increase in demand for temporary accommodation. About a quarter of employers were planning to make redundancies which would then result in additional costs to the Council from the increased demand on its services that this would create. There were also concerns that suppliers might have to hand back contracts to the Council.

It was noted that 36 households from the Chagos Islands had been welcomed at Heathrow and had been housed by Hillingdon Council, costing in the region of £880k this year (the full cost of this had been borne by Hillingdon residents). In 2022/2023, the net cost to the Council of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children had been £1.7m. In 2023/24, this had risen to £3.4m. This should be funded by the Government, not by Hillingdon residents. Around one fifth of asylum seekers in London were housed in Hillingdon which was double the limit that had been set by the Home Office. The Council needed a new financial settlement from the Government – the current and previous Governments had failed to pay for this which had forced the Council to look at its legal options.

The proposal to charge for green waste collection would be consulted on but the current situation was not sustainable. There were a lot of residents in the Borough who did not have a garden so did not use the green waste collection service. Should the proposals be introduced, green waste would still be collected weekly and there would be no limit on the amount collected.

The Council had been faced with three options:

1. Request exceptional financial support – this would mean that the Council would have no control over its priorities;
2. Increase Council Tax beyond the maximum – this would have required a referendum; or
3. The Council to solve its own problems – this had been the option that the Administration had chosen.

Those speaking against the original motion believed that the Council had not put proper measures in place to monitor and oversee its financial activity and did not have the high quality information that it needed to improve its financial governance. The authority could not continue to rely on its reserves and needed to develop a culture of not overspending. It was queried whether a CIPFA review would identify more holes in the Council's finances as the Conservative administration had run the authority into the ground.

Concern was expressed that the budget required the Council to make £34m in savings which was more than twice the amount the authority had made in any one year previously. Furthermore, the Council had not achieved any of its savings targets in the last five years. The budget was not thought to be fit for purpose and Hillingdon residents were being faced with cuts. Blame lay with the Conservative Group that had been in power for 27 years.

There had been extreme pressure on the DSG which had been ringfenced until March 2026. Concern was expressed that, if this funding was not extended beyond March 2026, all of the Council's reserves would be swept away. Although the Administration had stated that this was a national issue, only 38 councils had required a bail out and Hillingdon had received the highest bail out in London.

Residents in private rented housing had not been supported by the budget and no consideration had been given to the impact of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). There were around 2,500 licensed and unlicensed HMOs across the Borough and residents' concern about them and the impact they were having was growing in places such as Heathrow Villages.

It was suggested that the delay in the publication of the budget might have been caused by disagreements amongst the Conservative Group about abandoning its green waste policy and a last minute scramble to patch up legacy issues. Although the Council had spent a lot of money on achieving Green Flags, it had not maintained its green spaces and residents were having to take this role over. It was queried whether, if residents rejected the idea of paying for green waste collection, would the Council still force this change through.

The Council's priorities needed to reflect the needs of residents and build community pride. Despite the hard work of the waste enforcement team, they continued to be underfunded. A really small number of fines had been handed out for fly tipping each month and there had been a 300% increase in littering.

The budget was thought to be short sighted, particularly in relation to the Housing Revenue Account. It was suggested that the Administration had a poor track record of bidding for grant funding when they should have been grasping for opportunities to address issues such as the rising cost of temporary accommodation and increasing the amount of Council housing available. The Administration had not prioritised housing which had meant that residents were being faced with unaffordable options.

Concern was expressed that the move to digital access would leave some residents behind and cause them a lot of stress. There had not been a smooth transition to the digital offer and residents were being failed by the Council. It was important that the digital offer did not exclude residents but no guarantees had been given that residents would not be caught up in the process.

Consultation on the budget had taken place over the busy Christmas period and had showed that 52% of respondents were dissatisfied with the proposals. However, reference was only made to the 38% of residents that had said that they were satisfied with the budget - residents had said that they were happy with the current green waste collection service. There had been concerns raised about torn refuse bags, charging for parking permits, pot holes and trip hazards on pavements. Even though volunteers had taken up activities such as litter picking, it was likely that services were going to deteriorate.

The original motion was put to a recorded vote:

Those voting for: The Mayor (Councillor Sullivan), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Corthorne), Councillors Ahmad-Wallana, Banerjee, Bennett, Bhatt, Bianco, Bridges, Burrows, Choubedar, Davies, Denys, Edwards, Goddard, Gohil, Higgins, Lavery, Lewis, Makwana, Martin, D Mills, R Mills, O'Brien, Palmer, Riley, Smallwood and Tuckwell.

Those voting against: Councillors Abby, Basit, Burles, Curling, Dhot, Farley, Garelick, Garg, Gill, Islam, Judge, Kaur, Mand, Mathers, Nelson, Nelson-West, Punja, Sansarpuri, Singh and Sweeting.

Those abstaining: None.

The original motion was carried and it was:

RESOLVED: That:

1. The General Fund revenue budget proposals made by Cabinet be approved, resulting in a Council Tax requirement for 2025/26 of £154,125,910;
2. It be noted that, at its meeting on 16 January 2025, the Council calculated the amount of 105,422 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2025/26 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 £1,462.00 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 £1,952.37 for the borough;
4. The following amounts have been calculated by the Council for the year 2025/26, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):
 - a) £974,250,324 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) £820,123,360 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) £154,125,910 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) £1,462.00 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*)

The London Borough of Hillingdon Council Tax (£)			
Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
974.67	£1,137.11	£1,299.56	£1,462.00
Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
£1,786.89	£2,111.78	£2,436.67	£2,924.00

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 B and 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. It be noted that for the year 2025/26 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:

The Greater London Authority Precept (£)			
Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
£326.92	£381.41	£435.89	£490.38
Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
£599.35	£708.33	£817.30	£980.76

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 2025/26 for each category of dwelling below:

Total Council Tax 2025/26 (£)			
Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
£1,301.59	£1,518.52	£1,735.45	£1,952.38
Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
£2,386.24	£2,820.11	£3,253.97	£3,904.76

7. The Council Tax Discount for Older People be retained for 2025/26 with a 1.43% discount on Hillingdon’s element of the Council Tax for those who joined the scheme on or after 1 April 2020, 3.27% for those who joined the scheme before or on 31 March 2019 and 6.98% for those who joined before or on 31 March 2018, with the scheme closed to new applicants from 1 April 2021;
8. The General Fund Capital Programme for 2025/26 to 2029/30 as set out in Appendix A8 of the background report to Cabinet be approved;
9. The Housing Revenue Account budget proposals, HRA Capital Programme and housing rents set out in Appendix B of the background report be approved;
10. The proposed amendments to Fees and Charges set out in Appendix C of the background report to Cabinet be approved;
11. Capital Investment Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy, Investment Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2024/25 to 2029/30 as set out in Appendix D of the background report to Cabinet be approved;
12. The London Borough of Hillingdon Pay Policy Statement for 2025/26 as set

	<p>out in Appendix E of the background report to Cabinet be approved;</p> <p>13. The transformation plan, as set out in Appendix G of the background report to Cabinet, and the use of £17m of capital receipts for this purpose, subject to Government confirmation on utilising receipts for this purpose for a further year be noted;</p> <p>14. The Corporate Director of Finance’s comments regarding his responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2003 as set in his Section 25 Statement accompanying the Budget Report recommended by Cabinet be noted;</p> <p>15. Council (as set out in Schedule G of the Constitution - Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules) resolves that Cabinet may utilise the general reserves or balances during 2025/26 in support of functions designated to the Cabinet in line with Part 4 of the Constitution;</p> <p>16. Council confirm that the Council’s relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2025/26 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 and therefore a referendum will not be triggered; and</p> <p>17. Council approve the charging of a 100% premium on second homes (<i>Dwellings Occupied Periodically</i>). To commence for the financial year 2026/27.</p>
	<p>MINUTE ANNEX A</p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 10.06 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 democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2025/26

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 2025/26 an allowance of **£12,793** will be payable to all Councillors and 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. Leader of the Council	60,167.80
2. Deputy Leader of the Council	50,683.77
3. Chief Whip of Largest Party	24,318.39
4. Cabinet Member	42,385.34
5. Chair of Select Committee	24,318.39
6. Chair of Planning Committee	24,318.39
7. Chair of Licensing Committee	24,318.39
8. Chair of Standards Committee	3,427.05
9. Standards Committee Independent Person	512.50 (per meeting)
10. Chair of Audit Committee*	8,000.00
11. Chair of Pensions Committee*	8,000.00
12. Champion	6,253.61
13. Council representative on Adoption and Permanency Panel	13,708.22
14. Cabinet Assistant	9,484.03
15. Leader of 2 nd Party	24,318.39
16. Chief Whip of 2 nd Party	6,253.61
17. 2 nd Party Lead on Select Committee	6,253.61

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

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 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 Ministry for Housing, 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 Chair of the Audit Committee, an annual entitlement allowance of £8,000.00 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 entitlement allowance of £500 per meeting required and attended 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 £445.80 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 15th 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.



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Minutes

COUNCIL

8 May 2025

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

Councillor Colleen Sullivan (Mayor in the Chair - agenda items 1 to 3)

Councillor Philip Corthorne (Deputy Mayor - agenda items 1 to 3)

Councillor Philip Corthorne (Mayor in the Chair - agenda items 4 to 11)

Councillor Reeta Chamdal (Deputy Mayor - agenda items 4 to 11)

	<p>MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>Councillors: Kaushik Banerjee Ian Edwards Stuart Mathers Labina Basit Scott Farley Douglas Mills Adam Bennett Janet Gardner Richard Mills Kishan Bhatt Narinder Garg Peter Money Jonathan Bianco Tony Gill June Nelson Wayne Bridges Martin Goddard Barry Nelson-West Tony Burles Becky Haggard OBE Susan O'Brien Keith Burrows Henry Higgins Jane Palmer Reeta Chamdal Mohammed Islam Sital Punja Roy Chamdal Kamal Preet Kaur John Riley Farhad Choubedar Kuldeep Lakhmana Raju Sansarpuri Peter Curling Eddie Lavery Jagjit Singh Darran Davies Richard Lewis Peter Smallwood OBE Nick Denys Heena Makwana Jan Sweeting Jas Dhot Kelly Martin Steve Tuckwell</p>
	<p>OFFICERS PRESENT: Tony Zaman, Dan Kennedy, Sandra Taylor, Lloyd White, Daniel Toohey, Mark Braddock, Morgan Einon, Alice Pringault, Naveed Ali and Nikki O'Halloran</p>
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Abby, Ahmad-Wallana, Garelick, Gohil, Judge and Mand.</p>
2.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Peter Curling declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 3, as he was a member of Hillingdon Radio, one of the current Mayor's nominated charities, and stayed in the room during the consideration thereof.</p>
3.	<p>ELECTION OF MAYOR 2025 / 2026 (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>The Mayor gave a summary of her year in office and noted that the role had been challenging but had celebrated her strengths. She had worked with young people throughout the year and had formed many friendships and partnerships.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked her Mayoress, Mrs Anne Robinson, for the support that she had</p>

	<p>given her over the last twelve months and paid tribute to the Mayoral team and the Head of Democratic Services who had supported her during her mayoralty. The Mayor was grateful to her Ward Councillor colleagues, Councillors and the Leader for affording her the opportunity to hold the position over the last year.</p> <p>Nominations were invited for a Mayor to hold office for the 2025/26 municipal year. Councillor Corthorne was nominated by Councillor Riley and seconded by Councillor Smallwood. There were no further nominations.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Philip Corthorne be elected as Mayor for the 2025/2026 municipal year.</p> <p><i>The Council adjourned for robing of the new Mayor at 7.49pm and reconvened at 8.04pm.</i></p>
4.	<p>ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE NEW MAYOR (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The newly elected Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office.</p>
5.	<p>APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>The Mayor informed the Council that he had appointed Councillor Reeta Chamdal as Deputy Mayor.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Deputy Mayor for the 2025/2026 municipal year be noted.</p>
6.	<p>NEW MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>The new Mayor thanked Members for electing him to the position for the new municipal year and those that had supported him over the last twelve months during his time as Deputy Mayor. He advised that his Mayoresses would be his wife, Mrs Fiona Corthorne, and daughter, Ms Hannah James, and that his nominated charities for the year would be Hillingdon Stroke Support and SEND Family Support.</p>
7.	<p>VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Edwards moved a vote of thanks to the retired Mayor, Councillor Colleen Sullivan, and her Mayoress, Mrs Anne Robinson. He congratulated the outgoing Mayor on the vast range of duties that she had undertaken during her mayoralty over the last year.</p> <p>The vote of thanks was seconded by Councillor Curling. Councillors Roy Chamdal, Lakhmana, Martin and Palmer spoke in support of the motion.</p> <p>The Mayor presented a Past Mayor's badge to Councillor Sullivan and a Past Mayoress's badge to Mrs Anne Robinson.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the vote of thanks to the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Sullivan, be agreed.</p>
8.	<p>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <p>i) APPOINTMENT OF CABINET</p> <p>The appointment by the Leader of the Council of Councillor Bianco as the Deputy</p>

Leader, and the following Members as Cabinet Members, for 2025/2026 was noted:

Position/Portfolio	Councillor
Deputy Leader, Corporate Services & Property	Bianco
Finance & Transformation	Goddard
Community & Environment	Lavery
Children, Families & Education	O'Brien
Health & Social Care	Palmer
Planning, Housing & Growth	Tuckwell

ii) APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY OFFICER

Councillor Edwards moved, and Councillor Bianco seconded, the recommendation contained in the report. Those speaking against the motion noted that this was a further interim appointment to the statutory role of Section 151 and Chief Financial Officer at the London Borough of Hillingdon and a permanent appointment needed to be made to provide the Council with some stability. Those speaking in support of the motion noted that the interim nature of previous appointments had not contributed to the Council's current financial position. Action was now being taken to appoint to the position on a permanent basis.

RESOLVED: That Mr Andy Goodwin be appointed to the statutory role of Section 151 and Chief Financial Officer of the Council on an interim basis until such time as a formal appointment to the position of Corporate Director of Finance is made.

9. **COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP 2025 / 2026** (*Agenda Item 9*)

Councillor R Mills moved, and Councillor Edwards seconded, the motion as set out on the Order of Business and it was:

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Committees, Sub-Committees and their memberships, as set out in Minute Annex A, be approved.

10. **SELECT COMMITTEES' ANNUAL REPORT** (*Agenda Item 10*)

The Council received a report detailing the work covered by the Select Committees in 2024/25. It was moved by Councillor Bridges, seconded by Councillor Denys, and:

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

11. **STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL** (*Agenda Item 11*)

The Leader of the Council had reported an unprecedented time of change and challenge for public services in May 2024 and this continued to be the reality in 2025. The retreat from economic globalisation, weakening of long standing alliances and turbulent international relations had all impacted on Government spending priorities and, therefore, local government funding.

The Government had been overspending with borrowing in March being higher than expected at £151.9bn (an increase of £20.7bn on the previous year and £50bn higher than forecast). The Government's spending review would determine the money that would be available and the local government finance review would determine how the funding was distributed to local authorities. London Councils had warned that

councils had overspent by £345m on housing in the previous year and that there would be a funding shortfall of around £15m per council in the current year. The distribution of funding had been biased towards inner-London councils with Hillingdon being in the bottom quartile (the 14 lowest funded councils were in outer London and the 10 highest were in inner London). It was not anticipated that the disparity in the funding formula would be addressed and no account was likely to be taken of population growth. London Councils had requested that the formula take account of the preventative action being taken by councils in relation to children and young people.

Whilst it was recognised that all London boroughs were in the same funding position, Heathrow Airport was based in Hillingdon. The Government was aware of the worsening situation with regard to immigration, with the cost of unaccompanied asylum seekers coming through the airport being borne by Hillingdon residents. In the last year, this had created an unforeseen cost of £14m with the same expenditure expected in the current year.

There were a large number of hotels in Hillingdon but, when the Home Office evicted asylum seekers from these hotels, the Council was expected to cover the cost of supporting them (rather than spreading the support costs across the country through a national dispersal programme). This additional demand on services was to the detriment of existing service users and cost Hillingdon residents around £5m last year. The financial forecast for this year was expected to be the same so the combined cost for these two years would be the equivalent of around half of the Council's reserves.

It was costing around £4.6m per day to house migrants and the Home Office seemed to be ensuring that private companies were getting richer whilst councils and residents were worse off. Hillingdon had the sixth highest level of business rates in the country but was unable to reap any associated benefits. The Leader hoped that all three of the Borough's MPs would join the Council in making a case to Government for an increase in its funding.

The Council was aware of the financial challenges it faced and had put measures in place to mitigate these as much as possible. Action was being taken to improve the delivery of services through the use of things like technology and the third sector. The Council would be smaller in future and surplus assets would be disposed of but the local authority had continued to deliver excellent services and schemes. Hillingdon's adult social care had been rated as one of the best in the country and adult learning had also been rated highly. The development of 95 new homes and a new library had started in Yiewsley and the road and pavement resurfacing programme would be continuing.

The Council continued to put residents first and would be working with London Councils and others to try to get a fair funding agreement. The Leader thanked all staff for their dedication and hard work and the Chief Executive and their Corporate Management Team for leading on the change programme. He also thanked Members for the work that they undertook in their wards.

MINUTE ANNEX A - COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS

The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.52 pm.

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 democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

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ORDINARY COMMITTEES 2025/26

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE: 7 (4-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Makwana (Chair)	Sweeting (Lead)
Gohil (Vice Chair)	Gill
Bhatt	Garg
Smallwood	

Other Co-opted voting Members (for education related items only):

Parent Governor (2-5)	Vacant
Church of England Diocesan Representative	Vacant
Roman Catholic Diocesan representative	Anthony Little

CORPORATE RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE SELECT COMMITTEE: 7 (4-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Riley (Chair)	Mathers (Lead)
Bennett (Vice Chair)	Garelick
Banerjee	Garg
Choubedar	

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE: 7 (4-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Denys (Chair)	Punja (Lead)
Chamdal (Reeta) (Vice Chair)	Burles
Haggar	Nelson
Martin	

RESIDENTS' SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE: 7 (4-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Bridges (Chair)	Farley (Lead)
Smallwood (Vice Chair)	Gardner
Davies	Kaur
Gohil	

SUBSTITUTES FOR SELECT COMMITTEES ARE ALL COUNCILLORS EXCEPT THOSE IN THE CABINET

HILLINGDON PLANNING COMMITTEE: 7 (4-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Higgins (Chair)	Mand
Bennett (Vice Chair)	Garelick
Burrows	Singh
Chamdal (Roy)	
Substitutes: All Members that have received appropriate planning training to be substitutes for the Planning Committee, except Cabinet members who are not to be substitutes for the Committee.	

PENSIONS COMMITTEE: 5 (2-3)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Chamdal (Reeta) (Chair)	Mathers
Banerjee (Vice Chair)	Burles
Burrows	
Substitutes	Substitutes
Riley	Islam
Higgins	

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE: 3 (2-1)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Edwards (Chair)	Curling
Bianco (Vice Chair)	
Substitutes	Substitutes
All remaining Cabinet members - to be appointed dependent upon into which Cabinet portfolio the post(s) being interviewed falls	Farley
	Mathers
	Punja
	Sweeting

REGISTRATION & APPEALS COMMITTEE: 5 (3-2)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Burrows (Chair)	Judge
D.Mills (Vice Chair)	Money
Makwana	
Substitutes	Substitutes
All non-Cabinet members	All Labour Members

CABINET MEMBERS MAY BE MEMBERS OF THE TWO SUB-COMMITTEES SHOWN BELOW, BUT NO CABINET MEMBERS SHOULD SIT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAIN REGISTRATION AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE (SENIOR OFFICER): 3 (2-1)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Membership to be appointed by Group Leaders as required.	

GRIEVANCE SUB-COMMITTEE (SENIOR OFFICER): 3 (2-1)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Membership to be appointed by Group Leaders as required.	

OTHER COMMITTEES / PANELS (Outside the overall calculation but allocated on the basis of the overall political balance.)

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: 5 (3-2)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Bridges (Chair)	Nelson
Denys (Vice Chair)	Gill
Bennett	
Substitutes	Substitutes
Davies	Mathers

Non-voting Independent Person:

Graeme Armour (until July 2026)

AUDIT COMMITTEE: 5 (3-2)

Independent Co-Opted Member (non-voting):

John Chesshire (Chair)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Denys (Vice Chair)	Burles
D.Mills	Nelson
Higgins	
Substitutes	Substitutes
Bhatt	Farley
Lewis	

NB: NO MEMBER OF CABINET MAY SIT ON AUDIT COMMITTEE.

LICENSING COMMITTEE: 10 (6-4)

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Davies (Chair)	Farley
Smallwood (Vice Chair)	Gardner
Ahmad-Wallana	Lakhmana
Chamdal (Reeta)	Nelson-West
Martin	
Sullivan	

N.B. NO SUBSTITUTES ALLOWED FOR LICENSING COMMITTEE

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (2-1)

The sub-committee to comprise three Members of the Licensing Committee (2 Conservative and 1 Labour) selected on a rota basis from the membership of the Licensing Committee. Meetings of the Sub-Committee must be chaired by the Chair of the Licensing Committee, when available.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD: *Outside of the overall calculation and subject to the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.*

(as amended at full Council July 2022):

The membership of the Board shall comprise:

- 1) Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care (Co-Chair)
- 2) Hillingdon Health and Care Partners Managing Director (Co-Chair)
- 3) Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education (Vice-Chair)
- 4) LBH Chief Executive
- 5) LBH Executive Director Adult Services and Health
- 6) LBH Executive Director Children and Young People's Services
- 7) LBH Director, Public Health
- 8) NWL ICS - Hillingdon Board representative
- 9) NWL ICS - nominated lead
- 10) Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust - nominated lead
- 11) The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Chief Executive
- 12) Healthwatch Hillingdon - nominated lead
- 13) Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust - nominated lead
- 14) Hillingdon GP Confederation - nominated lead

Co-Chair

The Board shall be co-chaired by the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and the Managing Director of Hillingdon Health and Care Partners. The Vice Chair of the Board shall be the Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education. Only one Co-Chair may chair a meeting, and this will be determined at the start of each meeting. Should both Co-Chairs be unavailable to chair, the meeting will be chaired by the Vice Chair.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

5.1 QUESTION FROM BRIAN LAWRENCE OF MEADOW VIEW ROAD, HAYES, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT - COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

As there has been no notification as to why Hillingdon in Bloom & Autumn Show was cancelled, can you please provide an answer?

5.2 QUESTION FROM JASH PATEL OF LEAHOLME WAY, RUISLIP, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT - COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

Please consider charging an entrance fee for visitors (to the Ruislip Lido) from outside the Borough of Hillingdon. The attached article (*extract and link below*) means that the Ruislip Lido will be visited by thousands of visitors, free of charge to enjoy the beach etc. The sufferers of this will be Hillingdon residents paying Council tax. The visitors park all across the surrounding area causing problems for the residents. I have been a resident of Leaholme Way for 48 years and am an ex-Hillingdon Council pensioner.

I have made this request 2-3 times before. No joy.

“There's a sandy beach in London that many don't know about.

A beach in London might sound like a myth, but for those in the know, Ruislip Lido offers a surprising slice of coastal charm just 30 minutes from the heart of the capital.

Nestled on the edge of Ruislip Woods National Nature Reserve in Northwest London, Ruislip Lido is fast becoming a viral sensation after a TikTok video by user Callum Ryan revealed its sandy shoreline and 60-acre lake to a wider audience”

Link to full article:

[Secret sandy beach just 30 minutes from London | Travel News | Travel | Express.co.uk](#)

5.3 QUESTION FROM ANDREA SCRIVENS OF BROADWOOD AVENUE, RUISLIP AND THE FRIENDS OF THE RAGC, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:

At the Cabinet meeting on 26 June (*in relation to the item concerning the RAGC*) it was stated that all those who required an assessment of their social care needs would have one. At a time when I understand social services to be already stretched, have they got the capacity to carry out those assessments, what is the timescale for their completion and what are the estimated costs?

5.4 QUESTION FROM ISABEL STEVENSON OF PARKFIELD ROAD, ICKENHAM, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:

I am frightened for the safety of my son, who has been attending the Rural Activities Garden Centre as a gardener for many years. It is a safe and calming environment

where our family can get respite for a few hours knowing he is safe with friends doing what he enjoys the most. Please can the Cabinet Member explain to me how the open aspect of the Civic Centre gardens allocated as the alternative provision to RAGC can be made safe for my son.

5.5 QUESTION FROM SARAH GREEN OF IVER LANE, UXBRIDGE, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT - COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

The Council has a statutory responsibility to remediate the New Years Green landfill site and stop the landfill leachate polluting Ickenham Public Water Source on Breakspear Road South. After the 5-year period of Natural Monitored Attenuation (2013 to 2019), a report should have been written to inform decision makers of the pollution rates and what the recommended next steps are. Sufficient quantity of clean tap water is becoming critical in London. Can the Cabinet member tell the public the results of the Monitored Natural Attenuation at New Years Green landfill site and the next steps being taken?

Attached Document:

Notice under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Part IIA – Section 78C, issued by LBH to the Environment Agency of a decision that Contaminated Land at New Years Green Lane Landfill, Harefield is required to be designated as a Special Site

Dated 26th May 2011

5.6 QUESTION FROM JOHN SCRIVENS OF BROADWOOD AVENUE, RUISLIP AND THE FRIENDS OF THE RAGC, TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES & PROPERTY - COUNCILLOR BIANCO:

In order to scrutinise the Cabinet's decision to close the Rural Activities Garden Centre, is the Council able to provide evidence that it has examined the option of Community Asset Transfer to transfer management of RAGC to Friends of RAGC, or other community organisation, as this is an obvious alternative to closure which would open additional funding opportunities for RAGC and be supported by the on-site RAGC operating team.

5.7 QUESTION FROM MARK PEARMAN OF MELLOW LANE EAST, HAYES, TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR EDWARDS:

We have seen it before where the Council promises what their plans are with no details and asks the residents to trust them. In the past we have seen Colham Green Day Centre close and used for a housing estate. This Centre was moved to a smaller centre (Parkview Day Centre) along the Uxbridge Road. After a few years that Centre was closed, and the service was moved to a warehouse in Uxbridge. Shortly after this closed too.

Can the Leader of the Council explain why this time it will be any different and why the Council has been purposely managing the decline of the RAGC site?

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 scrutiny call-in period, provided the decision is deemed urgent and agreement is given from the Chair of the relevant Select Committee that the matter is urgent and to waive the scrutiny call-in period. All such decisions are to be reported for information only to the next full Council meeting.
2. Since last reported to Council, the following decisions have been made using urgency procedures:

Date of Decision	Nature of Decision	Reason for Urgency	Decision-Maker
26/6/25	Contract for Revenues, Benefits & Housing System & Other Corporate Solutions	The exceptional waiver of the scrutiny call-in period was agreed due to time constraints, beyond the control of the Council, to ensure the contract is in place to ensure the system's service continuity to residents, and where any delay could seriously prejudice the Council's and public's interests.	Cabinet
18/6/25	Meadow High School Expansion (Replacement Contractor Appointment for Northwood Road, Harefield site)	To provide the necessary grant funding in the 2025/26 budget to appoint a contractor for Meadow High School, enabling immediate contract execution and allowing for essential lead-in and site setup time to keep the project on track for a September 2026 opening.	The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Property, on behalf of the Leader, the Cabinet Member for Finance & Transformation and the Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education
29/4/25	Hayes Estate Regeneration and Development of first phases and release of funds 2025/26	To ensure the Council met its contractual payment obligations to the appointed contractors.	The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Property, on behalf of the Leader, and in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance & Transformation
16/4/25	Finance Modernisation Programme	To speedily confirm the future structure of the finance team and to recruit to those positions as well as reviewing our financial systems and processes to ensure they	The Leader of the Council, and on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Finance & Transformation

Date of Decision	Nature of Decision	Reason for Urgency	Decision-Maker
		remain fit for purpose and make best use of automation and information technology.	
20/2/25	The Schools Budget 25/26	The exceptional waiver of the scrutiny call-in period was agreed so that schools could be formally notified of their approved individual budgets by 28 February 2025	Cabinet

Background Papers: Decision Notices

ii) **POLITICAL GROUPS ON THE COUNCIL, CALCULATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Background

1. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides a statutory basis for the rights of political groups to secure representation upon Council Committee and Sub-Committee meetings in proportion to their respective political strengths within the Council.
2. A 'political group' is one which has been constituted in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and consists of at least two Members. It is therefore separate from the concept of a political party, although it may well consist of Members of the same political persuasion.
3. Following the local elections in 2022, two political groups were formed:
 - The Conservative Group with Councillor Ian Edwards as Group Leader and
 - The Labour Group with Councillor Peter Curling as Leader.
4. Subsequent to that Councillor Basit, who had previously formed a part of the Labour Group, became an independent Member and, therefore, does not constitute a 'Group' within the definition of the legislation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the alteration of the overall political balance of the Council, following the formation of the Hayes Independent Party Group, be noted and the following changes to membership of Council Committees etc. be approved:

- **Licensing Committee – Councillor Gardner to remain a member of the Committee but representing the Hayes Independent Party Group.**
- **Pensions Committee – Councillor Basit to replace Councillor Burles and Councillor Sullivan to replace Councillor Burrows. Councillor Burles to be a nominated substitute.**
- **Registration and Appeals Committee – Councillor Curling to replace Councillor Makwana and Councillor Basit to replace Councillor Judge.**
- **Appointments Committee – Councillor Mathers to replace Councillor Curling.**
- **Residents Services Select Committee - Councillor Garelick to replace Councillor Gardner.**

- **Corporate Resources and Infrastructure Select Committee - Councillor Mand to replace Councillor Mathers and Councillor Islam to replace Councillor Garelick.**
- **Hillingdon Planning Committee – Councillor Sansarpuri to replace Councillor Mand.**

Information

5. The Head of Democratic Services has recently received the requisite notices of:
- a change in the composition of the Labour Group, whereby Councillors Curling and Gardner are no longer members of that Group and are consequently sitting as independent Members.
 - The appointment of Councillor Stuart Mathers as Leader of the Labour Group with Councillor Punja as Deputy Leader.
 - The formation of a third political group on the Council – the Hayes Independent Party Group - comprising three members with Councillor Peter Curling as Leader and Councillor Gardner as Deputy Leader.
6. Council is asked to note the subsequent change in the overall political balance of the Council as shown below:

Council composition	members	% cttee places
Conservative	30	56.60
Labour	20	37.74
Hayes Independent	3	5.66
Total	53	100

7. The new Group are entitled to seats on certain Council Committees and, it has been agreed that the membership of the following bodies will be amended as shown below to comply with the revised political balance:
- **Licensing Committee** – Councillor Gardner to remain a member of the Committee but representing the Hayes Independent Party Group. The membership, therefore, to comprise 6 Con', 3 Lab' and 1 HIP.
 - **Pensions Committee** – Councillor Basit to replace Councillor Burles. The membership, therefore, to comprise 3 Con', 1 Lab' and 1 HIP.
 - **Registration and Appeals Committee** – Councillor Curling to replace Councillor Makwana and Councillor Basit to replace Councillor Judge. The membership, therefore, to comprise 2 Con', 1 Lab' and 2 HIP.

In addition, and not required by the change in political balance:

- the Labour Group has notified the following changes
 - **Appointments Committee** - replace Councillor Curling with Councillor Mathers,
 - **Residents Services Select Committee** - replace Councillor Gardner with Councillor Garelick
 - **Corporate Resources and Infrastructure Select Committee** - replace Councillor Mathers with Councillor Mand and replace Councillor Garelick with Councillor Islam.

- **Hillingdon Planning Committee** – replace Councillor Mand with Councillor Sansarpuri
 - **Pensions Committee** – Councillor Burles to be an additional Labour Group nominated substitute.
- b) the Conservative Group have notified that Councillor Sullivan is to replace Councillor Burrows as a member of the **Pensions Committee**.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. These are contained within the report.

Background papers: Hayes Independent Party Group declaration

iii) APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY OFFICER

Background

1. The Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer, along with the Head of Paid Service combine to form the Council's Statutory Officer functions. These roles are key to ensuring lawfulness, fairness, probity and general good governance that supports the Council in achieving its aims. It is important that they work effectively together yet maintain appropriate independence and that the roles are undertaken by adequately skilled and experienced staff supported by appropriate resources.

RECOMMENDATION: That the new Corporate Director of Finance* be appointed to the statutory role of Section 151 and Chief Financial Officer of the Council once their appointment to the post of Corporate Director of Finance has been confirmed and they have commenced employment at the Council.

** NB – name of recommended officer to follow.*

Information

2. Section 151 Officer:

Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and appoint a S151 Officer, also known as a Chief Financial Officer (CFO), whose roles and responsibilities are defined in the Constitution.

3. As such, the CFO must lead on a local authority's financial functions and ensure they are fit for purpose. The CFO must be professionally qualified and suitably experienced. In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the

CFO must be a member of one of the following bodies in order to qualify as a responsible officer:

- (a) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales,
 - (b) the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland,
 - (c) the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants,
 - (d) the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy,
 - (e) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland,
 - (f) the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, and
 - (g) any other body of accountants established in the United Kingdom and for the time being approved by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this section.
3. Members will recall that, at the last meeting of Council in May and following the departure of the previous, interim S151 Officer, Mr Andy Goodwin was appointed as the interim S151 Officer pending the appointment of a permanent Corporate Director of Finance / Chief Financial Officer.
 4. Subsequently, following a full recruitment process, the Appointments Committee on 1 July 2025 have appointed to the position of Corporate Director of Finance / Chief Financial Officer (subject to references) and Council is now asked to fulfil its statutory duty and appoint the recommended appointee to the role of S151 officer, once their appointment is confirmed and they commence work at the authority.
 5. ***NB – the name of the appointed applicant will be supplied to Members prior to the Council meeting in order that Members can satisfy themselves that the nominated person’s experience and qualifications are suitable for the role.***
 6. This appointment will provide appropriate expertise and resilience to the Council in its financial management.

Financial Implications

7. The cost of this appointment will be contained within existing budgets.

Legal Implications

8. The appointment of a Section 151 Officer is a statutory requirement which is reserved to Full Council.

Background papers: None

iv) NORTHWEST LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

1. Council is asked to consider the changes to the Terms of Reference for the Northwest London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (NWL JHOSC).

RECOMMENDATION: That Council agrees the changes to the NWL JHOSC Terms of Reference.

Information

2. The NWL JHOSC was established to provide a joined-up approach towards the scrutiny of plans for meeting the health needs of the population and arranging for the provision of health services across Northwest London (NWL). There had been a particular focus on the planning and delivery of services being led through the NWL Integrated Care Board (ICB) with a view to enabling a more coordinated approach than might normally be taken by individual local authorities.
3. The JHOSC also has a role under Section 23 and 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 in considering any proposals relating to the substantial reconfiguration of health services proposed by NWL ICB. The JHOSC has the ability to make recommendations to the Integrated Care System, ICB and NHS England (or any other appropriate outside body) in relation to the plans for meeting the health needs of the population and for the provision of health services in NWL. It will also monitor the outcomes of these recommendations where appropriate.
4. The NWL JHOSC recently reviewed its Terms of Reference and agreed that its remit be revised in relation to the powers available to consider any substantial reconfiguration of health services. The current Terms of Reference for the NWL JHOSC currently exclude it from formally acting for the purposes of being consulted on any major reconfiguration of health services across NWL, such as the recent Specialist Palliative Care reconfiguration proposals.
5. Paragraph 5 of the current Terms of Reference state:

“Participation in the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will not preclude any scrutiny or right of response by individual boroughs. In particular, and for the sake of clarity, this joint committee is not appointed for and nor does it have delegated to it any of the functions or powers of the local authorities, either individually or jointly, under Section 23 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013”.
6. As drafted, this means that new consultations involving any major reconfiguration of services would require a new JHOSC to be convened specifically in order to comply with the legislative requirements. Given that the NWL JHOSC was established to provide a joined-up approach towards the scrutiny of plans for meeting the health needs of the population and arranging

for the provision of health services across NWL, convening separate boards would be counter-productive and defeat the purpose of the JHOSC.

7. Following discussions between member authorities, it has become apparent that the terms of reference for other JHOSCs (for example, Southeast London, North Central London and Inner Northeast London) provide greater flexibility and remove any uncertainty about the power of the JHOSC being able to formally respond to proposals relating to substantial reconfigurations.
8. In order to reflect this change, it is therefore proposed that paragraph 5 of the JHOSC Terms of Reference be amended as follows:

~~*Participation in the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will not preclude any scrutiny or right of response by individual boroughs. In particular, and for the sake of clarity, this joint committee is not appointed for and nor does it have delegated to it any of the functions or powers of the local authorities, either individually or jointly, under Section 23 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013”.*~~

To delegate the functions and powers available to local authorities under Section 23 and 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 to collectively respond to any formal consultations on proposals for substantial developments or variations in health services affecting the area of Northwest London on behalf of all boroughs participating in the JHOSC.

Participation in the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will not preclude any scrutiny or right of response by individual boroughs.

9. The proposed change set out in 3.7 has been subject to review by the JHOSC but will require formal approval as a change to the Constitution by each individual member authority, prior to coming into effect.

Financial Implications

10. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

11. There are no legal implications associated with the recommendation in this report. The NWL JHOSC is appointed under the provisions of regulation 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013/218 (‘the 2013 Regulations’), which provides that two or more local authorities may appoint a joint overview and scrutiny committee of those authorities and arrange for relevant functions in relation to any (or all) of those authorities to be exercisable by the joint committee subject to such terms and conditions as the authorities may consider appropriate.
12. Regulation 23 of the 2013 Regulations provides that, where a responsible person has under consideration any proposal for a substantial development of the health service in the area of a local authority, or for a substantial variation in the provision of such service, they must consult the authority. The proposed

revisions to the joint committee's terms of reference retains the requirement that individual member authorities be consulted in relation to substantial developments and variations in the provision of health services in their local authority area.

13. The proposed changes to the JHOSC's terms of reference are designed to ensure these powers are clearly reflected.

Background Papers: None

APPENDIX

NORTHWEST LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Membership

One nominated voting member from each Council participating in the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee plus one alternate member who can vote in the voting member's absence. In addition, one non-voting co-opted member of the London Borough of Richmond. The committee will require at least six voting members in attendance to be quorate. The North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will elect its own Chair and Vice Chair.

Terms of Reference

(Amendment to paragraph 5 highlighted in red)

1. To scrutinise the plans for meeting the health needs of the population and arranging for the provision of health services in North West London; in particular the implementation plans and actions by the North West Integrated Care System and their Integrated Care Board, focusing on aspects affecting the whole of North West London. Taking a wider view than might normally be taken by individual local authorities.
2. To review and scrutinise decisions made, or actions taken by North West London Integrated Care System, their Integrated Care Board and/or other NHS service providers, in relation to the plans for meeting the health needs of the population and arranging for the provision of health services in North West London, where appropriate.
3. To make recommendations to North West London Integrated Care System and its Integrated Care Board, NHS England, or any other appropriate outside body in relation to the plans for meeting the health needs of the population and arranging for the provision of health services in North West London; and to monitor the outcomes of these recommendations where appropriate.
4. To require the provision of information from, and attendance before the committee by, any such person or organisation under a statutory duty to comply with the scrutiny function of health services in North West London. Individual local authority members of the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny

Committee will continue their own scrutiny of health services in, or affecting, their individual areas (including those under the for North West London).

5. ~~Participation in the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will not preclude any scrutiny or right of response by individual boroughs. In particular, and for the sake of clarity, this joint committee is not appointed for and nor does it have delegated to it any of the functions or powers of the local authorities, either individually or jointly, under Section 23 of the local authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.~~

To delegate the functions and powers available to local authorities under Section 23 and 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 to collectively respond to any formal consultations on proposals for substantial developments or variations in health services affecting the area of North West London on behalf of all boroughs participating in the JHOSC.

Participation in the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will not preclude any scrutiny or right of response by individual boroughs.

Duration

The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue until all participating authorities decide otherwise and does not preclude individual authorities from leaving the Committee if they choose to do so. The Committee will keep under review whether it has fulfilled its remit and recommendations of the Committee will be reported to a Full Council meeting of each participating authority, at the earliest opportunity

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QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

7.1 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DENYS TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION - COUNCILLOR GODDARD:

Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the Financial Improvement Programme which was initiated following the Budget setting at February Council?

7.2 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SWEETING TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES & EDUCATION - COUNCILLOR O'BRIEN:

Why was Hillingdon's important Annual Education Standard's Report 2023/24 not considered by Cabinet this year as has been the case with similar reports in previous years?

7.3 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HAGGAR TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:

What effect is the Cabinet decision to close the retail operation of the Rural Activities Garden Centre likely to have on the Social Care provision of horticultural therapy?

7.4 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SMALLWOOD TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT- COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

Can the Cabinet member confirm that Hillingdon Council is not levying parking charges on those visiting Breakspear Crematorium to pay their respects to deceased relatives?

7.5 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BURROWS TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT- COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

Does the Cabinet member consider the decision to relocate Uxbridge Library to have been successful?

7.6 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BURLES TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT- COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

The Rural Activities Garden Centre is described as a 'hidden Gem' and for over 40 years has provided vital life changing services for our adults with learning difficulties. Can the Cabinet member explain why he did not seek alternative providers like the Council did for the Beck Theatre and Early Years Nursery Centres so that it can remain open?

7.7 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BANERJEE TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT- COUNCILLOR LAVERY:

Can the Cabinet member please update Council on the rollout of the garden waste subscription scheme?

7.8 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BENNETT TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - COUNCILLOR PALMER:

Following the CQC inspection, which rated Adult Social Care as 'good', can the Cabinet Member please provide any further updates on the service?

7.9 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PUNJA TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, HOUSING & GROWTH- COUNCILLOR TUCKWELL:

It is a year since Council resolved that a report be sent to Cabinet considering the sufficiency of evidence required under Part 2 Housing Act 2004 to extend licensing obligations to all properties with 3 bedrooms housing multiple unrelated occupants and to commence consultation on the implementation of this additional licensing obligation where it is justified.

I note that the report is shown on the Forward Plan as due to be submitted to Cabinet in July. Please can the Cabinet member explain why it has taken a year to produce this report and what actions are going to be taken as the increasing rise in HMOs are changing our streets and impacting on our Council services?

7.10 QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MAND TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION - COUNCILLOR GODDARD:

Can the Cabinet member please explain the absence and delays of budget monitoring reports and financial reports to Cabinet and Select Committee meetings?

MOTIONS

8.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CURLING

That this Council notes the devastating impact that a third runway, at Heathrow airport, would have on our borough and its residents. Council further notes the well documented detrimental impact on the environment, as well as the adverse impact on the health and well-being of a significant number of residents within our borough, should a third runway be built and brought into operation.

This Council therefore reaffirms its strong, cross party, opposition to a third runway at Heathrow Airport.

8.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MATHERS

That this Council is seriously concerned at the Cabinet's broken promises to its residents with reversal of the affirmation agreed in July 2023 by Full Council that:

“this Council affirms our commitment to free weekly bin collections, including recycling and green waste collections and thanks our Council staff for their dedication to their work.”

And that this:

“Council reaffirms that it rejects the idea of charging residents for the collection of garden waste”.

The Cabinet reasons for supporting policies that have introduced an initial £70 subscription charge for this service in the borough was to save £34 million to balance the budget and avoid bankruptcy.

Therefore, this Council calls on the Cabinet to refer the implementation and introduction of charges for waste to the relevant select committee in order to scrutinise the effectiveness of this measure in achieving the desired savings at regular intervals over the coming financial year to assure residents that this and other aspects of the savings programme will raise the required funds in year to remain within budget.

8.3 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PUNJA

That this Council agrees to call on Councillor Lavery, Cabinet Member for Community and Environment to reconsider the Cabinet decision to close the retail operations of the Rural Activities Garden Centre made on June 26th 2025 for the following

- a) failure to accurately analyse or calculate financial income year on year income under Financial Implications
- b) failure to have sought and costed alternative providers for the site to remain open.
- c) failure to have scoped, costed, assessed and consulted on new provision for gardeners with social care package to ensure a safe environment

- d) misleading information on £1.2m needed for investment to meet Health and Safety standards as this cost was based on an improvement plan proposal.
- e) failure to provide reasonable adjustments for adults with learning disabilities as per guidance in the Equalities Act at the initial engagement meeting of 30th May 2025

This Council values robust reporting to make high quality decisions and asks the Cabinet member for Community and Environment to instruct officers to provide an updated report addressing, but not limited to, the concerns listed above and submit to the relevant Select Committees for scrutiny before going to Cabinet for a decision.

8.4 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EDWARDS

That this Council notes that Hillingdon has the highest number of asylum seekers housed in hotels or dispersed accommodation of any local authority in London (more than 4.5 times the London average) and possibly the highest nationally. It is unfair and unsustainable to require Hillingdon's residents to carry the grossly disproportionate burden of supporting former asylum seekers evicted from hotels as required by law. Council also notes with concern the commitment of Government to evict into this borough more than 2,300 asylum seekers presently housed in our hotels by the end of the present Parliament.

To protect the interests of Hillingdon's residents, this Council requires Government to cease the practice of evicting former asylum seekers from hotels and dispersed accommodation within our borough without the necessary future support and accommodation having been secured and funded by the Home Office and to refund the cost shouldered by Hillingdon's residents to date.

Furthermore, this Council calls on our three Members of Parliament to work with Government to secure the immediate funding for Hillingdon's asylum cost to date, to ensure that the responsibility for supporting and accommodating those evicted from hotels in the borough will from this point on be equitably shared nationally, and that the funding of port authorities is commensurate with the additional responsibilities that they discharge on behalf of the nation.