

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services

(i) URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That the Urgency decisions detailed below be noted.

Information

1. The Constitution allows a Cabinet or Cabinet Member decision to be implemented before the expiry of the 5 day call-in provided there is agreement from the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Executive Scrutiny Committee to waive this. All such decisions are to be reported for information only to the next full Council meeting.
2. Recently the following decisions have been made using the urgency procedures:

Date of Decision	Decision Type / Nature of Decision	Decision-Maker
22/06/2018	Housing Revenue Account Major Adaptations to Property 2018/19 - Release No 5 - works to properties to assist disabled residents.	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
29/06/2018	Housing Revenue Account Works to Stock 2018/19: Replacement Of Communal Boilers At Barden Court, Harefield And Associated Capital Release	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
29/06/2018	Housing Revenue Account Major Adaptations to Property 2018/19 Release No 6 - works to properties to assist disabled residents.	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
11/07/2018	Highways Programme 2018/19 - Release No 1 – upgrades to various roads across the Borough	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
18/07/2018	University Bursary Policy – approving the operation of a new scheme offering Hillingdon residents a bursary to pay for the first years' university tuition fees of their undergraduate course.	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services
24/07/2018	Upgrade of CCTV Systems in Town Centres and Associated Capital Release – control room and new digital camera upgrades to protect various towns and villages across the Borough	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Members for Community, Commerce & Regeneration and Finance, Property & Business Services

Date of Decision	Decision Type / Nature of Decision	Decision-Maker
01/08/2018	Charging Schedule for Civil Penalties – agreement to consult on new fines to protect tenants from rogue landlords.	Leader or the Council
17/08/2018	Guru Nanak Sikh College, Springfield Road, Hayes – approve of new lease arrangements for the playing fields.	Leader or the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Property & Business Services
21/08/2018	Hillingdon Christmas Lights Programme 2018-2019 – grant awards and a new contract to deliver lights across the Borough from 2018 onwards.	Leader or the Council

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Decision Notices

(ii) LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Members will recall that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is undertaking a review of the London Borough of Hillingdon's local government electoral arrangements. The outcome of the review will be implemented for the May 2022 Council elections.
- 1.2 The purpose of an electoral review is to consider the:
- number of Councillors elected to the Council,
 - number & names of wards,
 - ward boundaries and
 - number of Councillors per ward.
- 1.3 At the meeting of Full Council in July 2018 Council approved the content of a submission to the Commission regarding the proposed size of the Council (number of Councillors) from 2022 onwards. The purpose of this report is to update Members with progress of the review and to outline the next stage.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That

- a) **it be noted that the LGBCE has recommended that, w.e.f May 2022, the Council size will be 53 Members.**
- b) **the Head of Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to submit proposals for consideration to the LGBCE by 5 November 2018 for the composition, size and name of wards for the London Borough of Hillingdon from May 2022 onwards.**

2. Background

- 2.1 Periodically the LGBCE will conduct a review of all local authority electoral arrangements using the following statutory criteria:-

- The need to secure electoral equality (a consistent number of electors per Councillor)
 - Community identity (strong ward boundaries that reflect communities); and
 - Securing effective and convenient local government (coherent wards)
- 2.2 The current LBH electoral arrangements were established after the previous review in 1999 and resulted in 22 wards and 65 Councillors.
- 2.3 The preliminary stage of the current review, just concluded, has resulted in a recommended future Council size; i.e. the number of elected Councillors as being 53; a reduction of 12 from the current size.
- 2.4 This will result in an average of 4,294 electors per elected Member (currently 3,096) based on a projected electorate in 2024 of 227,620, as detailed in the Council submission – an increase of approximately 13% over the current figure.
- 2.5 The recommendation regarding the number of Councillors now informs the next stage of the review which is a 10 week period of public consultation during which the Commission will invite submissions from all interested parties within the Borough for the structure of the LBH electoral wards i.e. the size and number of wards, ward names, ward boundaries and the number of councillors to represent each ward.
- 2.6 The public consultation programme, co-ordinated by the Commission, has commenced and aims to reach out to all interested persons (individuals / organisations / residents associations / public bodies / schools / political parties / charities etc.) and invite their suggestions for the future make-up of wards in the Borough.
- 2.7 As a part of that consultation the Council is entitled to submit proposals for the warding patterns. Unfortunately, the deadline for such a submission (5 November) falls before the next Council meeting (22 November) and it is, therefore, proposed, that the Head of Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make a submission by the deadline of 5 November and to report details of the submission to the Council meeting on 22 November.
- 2.8 The submission will be required to follow the criteria as set out in 2.1 (above) and produce wards with, as near as possible, an electoral equality of 4,294 electors per Councillor.
- 2.9 In January 2019 the Commission will then produce a first set of draft proposals based on the submissions received and a second period of consultation will commence until 18 March 2019.
- 2.10 A final decision will then be expected in May 2019 for implementation at the Council elections in May 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The decision of the LGBCE to reduce the number of elected Members to 53 will result in financial implications in 2022. The scale of these implications will not be quantified fully until the completion of the Stage Two part of the review process.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 sets out the duty placed on the LGBCE to undertake an electoral review of every principal local authority in England 'from time to time'. Decisions regarding electoral arrangements in the Borough are reserved to Full Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None