

Cabinet Addendum Sheet

24 March 2022

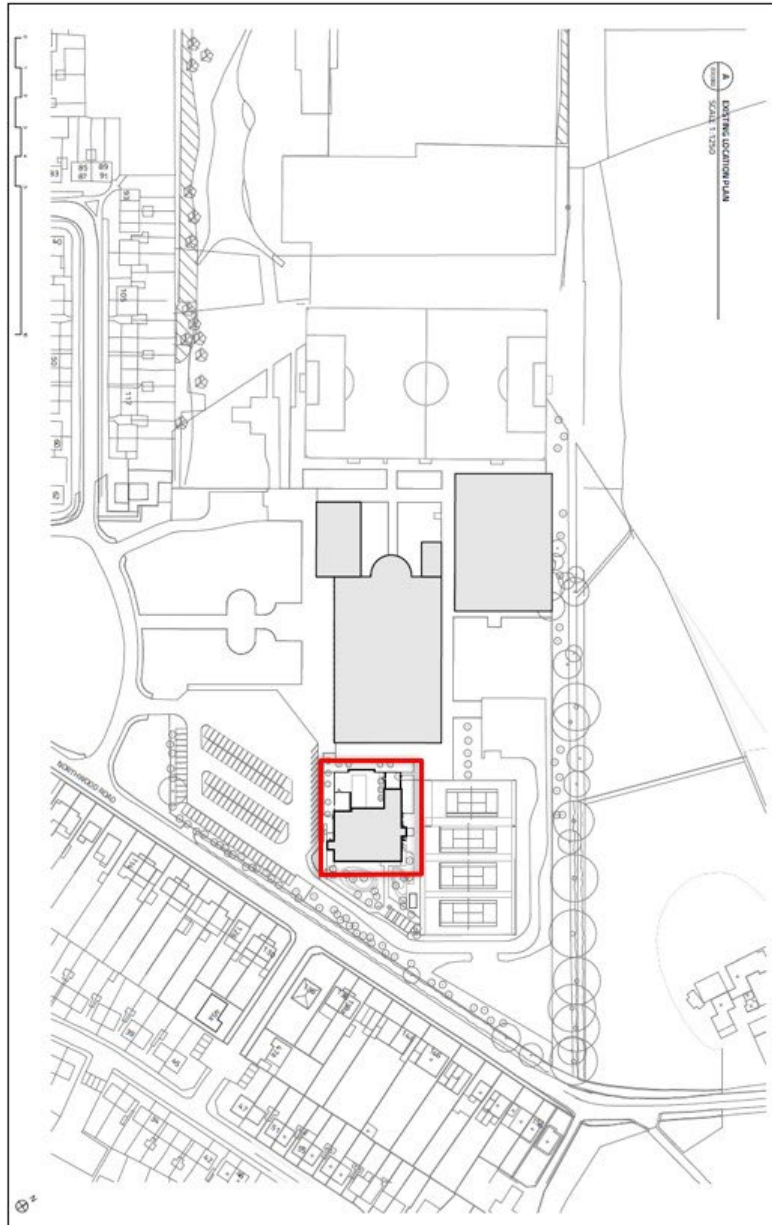


HILLINGDON
LONDON

Classification: Public

ITEM 6 - EXPANSION OF MEADOW HIGH SCHOOL

Revised site plan due to technical error, showing correct location of the proposed Satellite Unit.



Proposed location of
satellite unit within the
Harefield Academy site

ITEM 9 - MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT: MONTH 10

Additional recommendation 2I:

That Cabinet approve the award of discretionary Section 13a relief to Council Taxpayers who provide accommodation for refugees through the Government's Homes of Ukraine initiative, where this would otherwise result in an increase in the amount of Council Tax due, with arrangements to be unwound should Government step in to mitigate such increases.

Supporting information

On 14 March 2022, the Government launched its Homes for Ukraine initiative which invites sponsors (individuals, charities, community groups and businesses) to volunteer accommodation and provide a route to safety for those forced to escape their homeland as a result of the current war. Under this programme, sponsors are asked to commit to providing accommodation for a minimum of six months.

The Single Person Discount for Council Tax provides a 25% discount for individuals either living alone or solely with students, carers or other groups disregarded by Government for the purposes of calculating the Single Person Discount. For the forthcoming 2022/23 financial year, the value of this discount ranges from £276.48 to £829.43 depending on the Council Tax Band of the property.

At the time of publication of this addendum, the Government has not added Ukrainian refugees to the list of those disregarded in calculating the Single Person Discount and, therefore, any sponsors currently in receipt of this discount would be required to pay the full Council Tax bill for their property.

In order to avoid this additional cost, and any other unforeseen effects on Council Tax liabilities, falling on sponsors, the above recommendation seeks authorisation to award a local discretionary Council Tax relief to the equivalent value to any lost discount.

Given that any Section 13a relief awarded will replace Single Person Discounts previously in place, there are no material financial implications associated with this recommendation.

Should the Government bring in national measures to ensure households sponsoring Ukrainian refugees are not subject to increased Council Tax bills, the Council's local measures will be unwound as necessary.

Alternative options considered

None.