

## PUBLIC PREVIEW:

### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED LATER IN PRIVATE

Cabinet Member(s)	As appropriate
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	As appropriate
Officer Contact(s)	Mark Braddock – Democratic Services
Papers with report	None

## HEADLINES

Summary	<p>A report to Cabinet to provide maximum transparency to residents on the private matters to be considered later in Part 2 of the Cabinet meeting and agenda.</p> <p>This will enable Cabinet Members to openly discuss such matters generally in public, and via the Council’s live broadcast of the meeting, without prejudicing their later consideration in private.</p>
Putting our Residents First	<p>This report supports the following Council objectives of: <i>Our Natural Environment; Our Built Environment; Our Heritage and Civic Pride; Strong financial management</i></p>
Financial Cost	<p>As set out in the report.</p>
Relevant Select Committee	<p>As set out in this report under each item – however, this item is not for scrutiny call-in as it is information only.</p>
Ward(s)	<p>As set out in the report</p>

## RECOMMENDATION

**That Cabinet note the reports to be considered later in private and Part 2 of the Cabinet agenda and comment on them as appropriate for public information purposes.**

### Reasons for recommendation

#### Why are certain reports considered in private?

As a transparent, democratic organisation, the Council’s Cabinet will consider matters in public on Part 1 of this Cabinet agenda. However, there will inevitably be some reports that will need to be considered in private. These would generally relate to contracts, property transactions or commercially sensitive information, for example, tender bids from commercial organisations,

which if made public, could prejudice the Council's ability secure value-for-money for resident taxpayers.

This information is also called 'exempt' information and is considered in Part 2 of any Cabinet agenda by applying the relevant section of the Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), in that the report contains certain information and that the public interest in withholding that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

#### How can the public find out more about the private reports?

To ensure maximum transparency when the Cabinet considers such private reports:

- 1) They are first given advance notice on the Cabinet's Forward Plan in summary form setting out the reason why they will be considered in private. The [Forward Plan](#) is a public document setting out all the expected decisions the Cabinet will make over the coming year, except those that are urgent, and is available on the Council's website to view;
- 2) This report provides a fuller public preview of the matters to be discussed in Part 2 of this Cabinet meeting and gives an opportunity for Cabinet Members to highlight issues of significance within and for public information purposes, without prejudicing their later fuller consideration in private. It also sets out the recommendations in general terms that are being proposed for a decision on.
- 3) Consideration of this report will also be broadcast live on the Council's YouTube channel: Hillingdon London, and available for viewing afterwards, for wider democratic engagement.
- 4) After these private reports are considered in Part 2 of this Cabinet meeting, Cabinet's full decisions on them will then be published on the Council's website the day after the Cabinet meeting, along with the decisions on the other matters already considered in public.

#### **Alternative options considered**

Cabinet could resolve to release any private report into the public domain in extraordinary or highly exceptional cases, where it considers the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in withholding it. However, to ensure greater transparency on all private matters considered, this public preview item is advised as the most suitable way forward.

#### **Legal comments**

Such private matters are considered in accordance with Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) Access to Information provisions and also The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. This report enables such matters to be discussed in public as far as is possible under the relevant legislation.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

<p><b>Item 11 – Contact for the supply, erection, and repair of fencing and gating</b></p>	
<p><b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant Ward Select Committee</b></p>
<p>Councillor Jonathan Bianco Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport</p>	<p>All Property, Highways &amp; Transport</p>
<p><b>Information</b></p>	<p><b>General recommendations</b></p>
<p>Cabinet will consider a contract for a suitably experienced contractor to undertake its requirements for reactive repairs to fencing and gating throughout its housing stock and corporate buildings. This follows a competitive tender exercise where the current contract is due to expire in September 2022.</p> <p>The Council has a housing stock of approximately 10,000 properties located on a number of estates within the Borough. The Council also provides services to residents from a number of corporate buildings, libraries, theatres, day centres and children’s homes. Fencing and gating of various types and constructions are installed at many of these properties.</p> <p>Most fencing and gating requirements are reactive and involve the repair or replacement of damaged panels, posts and gates often at very short notice to ensure the safety and security of the public and employees. The types of fencing and gating installed, and the extent of the works required vary in each case and depend upon the location and the particular requirement.</p> <p>The Council is also responsible for installing and maintaining the condition of boundary fences and gates on its corporate properties and other open spaces.</p>	<p>That Cabinet consider the acceptance of a tender for the Supply, Delivery, Erection, Maintenance and Repair of Fencing and Gating works for Housing and Corporate properties for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years.</p>

<p><b>Item 12 - Asbestos Removal &amp; Making Safe Service Contract</b></p>	
<p><b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant Ward Select Committee</b></p>
<p>Councillor Jonathan Bianco Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport</p>	<p>All Property, Highways &amp; Transport</p>
<p><b>Information</b></p>	<p><b>General recommendations</b></p>
<p>Cabinet will consider a contract for a professional company to handle and remove the hazardous nature of broken or disturbed asbestos in its buildings, following a competitive tender exercise.</p> <p>Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral made up of soft, flexible fibres that are resistant to heat, electricity, and corrosion. Its strength and flexibility meant that asbestos became an extremely popular insulation material in buildings prior to 2000. Asbestos was used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roofing Insulation (boards, cavity walls, attics)</li> <li>• Walls &amp; Ceilings (cement and Artex)</li> <li>• Flooring</li> <li>• Gutters and pipes</li> </ul> <p>Although asbestos was an extremely effective, it came with serious health risks. In 1999, therefore, the UK banned all use of asbestos.</p> <p>It is important to note that asbestos in good condition does not pose any immediate health risks. However, the danger comes when it is broken down or disturbed, releasing asbestos dust into the air that can be inhaled. To safely remove it from any of the Council's corporate buildings, should it be required, a specialise contractor is needed with appropriate accreditation.</p>	<p>That Cabinet consider the acceptance of a tender the Asbestos Removal and Making Safe Service for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years.</p>

<b>Item 13 - Grant of lease for the Brookfield Adult Education Centre, Uxbridge</b>	
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Ward Select Committee</b>
Councillor Jonathan Bianco Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport	Uxbridge / All Property, Highways & Transport
<b>Information</b>	<b>General recommendations</b>
<p>Cabinet will consider leasing the Brookfield Adult Education Centre site on Park Road, Uxbridge to an external partner organisation to continue to provide specialist education special needs provision in the Borough.</p> <p>The adult education service at Brookfield Adult Education Centre, as a result, are being relocated into the Civic Centre in Uxbridge.</p> <p>The lease to Orchard Hill College of the Brookfield site will importantly enable the provision of additional special educational needs places in the Borough, supporting the Council's Dedicated Schools Budget Recovery Plan.</p>	<p>That Cabinet consider granting a lease of the Brookfield Adult Education centre site to an external educational partner organisation called The Orchard College.</p>