

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services

6.1 URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That the Urgency decisions detailed below be noted.

Information

1.1 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 Chairman 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.

1.2 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
25/09/2023	Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund 3b. Works for 4 sites: Civic Centre, Uxbridge; Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Centre; Highgrove Pool; Winston Churchill Hall	To ensure the Council could decarbonise four of its highest energy intensive corporate buildings before the short timescale for spending the Government grant ran out.	Leader of the Council, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport,
28/09/2023	Grant of a new lease to UK Power Network and surrender and regrant of a lease to land adjoining Grangewood School and Coteford Junior School as part of the approved SEN Free School being built on the Grangewood site.	To ensure that the new school is delivered on time and within budget, with the necessary utility provisions.	Leader of the Council, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport
18/10/2023	Meadow High School Expansion (Two Sites) Project – Meadow High School (Royal Lane, Uxbridge) Re-Provision Delegated Award of Design and Build Contract with Capital Release	To meet the tight timescales to deliver this important SEND provision project.	Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport (and, as Deputy Leader, on behalf of the Leader of the Council) in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance

Date of Decision	Nature of Decision	Reason for Urgency	Decision-Maker
27/10/2023	Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre – Emergency costs due to Contractor entering into Administration	To allow works to the Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre to continue and made weathertight whilst a replacement main contractor is procured and to mitigate losses due to the damage from the weather and other sources if it were left in its current state.	Leader of the Council, and on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport

6.2 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

RECOMMENDATION: That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to replace all references to ‘Chairman’ in the Council Constitution, with ‘Chair’ or ‘Chairperson’ as appropriate.

Information

1. The Constitution of the London Borough of Hillingdon sets out how the Council is governed and operates, the various roles of the elected Members, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that everything the Council does is efficient, transparent, accountable, done with integrity and engages residents in the way it does business.
2. It is proposed that the use of the word ‘Chairman’ to refer to the person chairing a meeting – whether male or female – is now outdated, and this should be replaced with the use of the word ‘Chairperson’ or ‘Chair’.

Legal & Financial Implications

3. Many of the Council’s constitutional procedures are required by law, whilst others are a matter of local choice. Council regularly reviews the Constitution to ensure it meets local priorities and legislative changes. Changes to the Constitution require approval of full Council.
4. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Background papers: None