

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 Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026	<p>This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of: An efficient, well-run, digital-enabled council working with partners to deliver services to improve the lives of all our residents</p> <p>This report supports our commitments to residents of: A Digital-Enabled, Modern, Well-Run Council</p>
Financial Cost	As set out in the report.
Relevant Select Committee	As set out in this report under each item – however, this item is not for scrutiny call-in as it is information only.
Ward(s)	As set out in the report

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

ITEM 9 - COMMISSIONING OF INFORMATION, ADVICE, GUIDANCE AND WELLBEING SUPPORT SERVICES TO RESIDENTS

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllrs Jane Palmer, Susan O'Brien and Steve Tuckwell
Relevant Ward(s)	N/A
Relevant Select Committee	Health & Social Care / Children, Families & Education / Residents' Services

Information

This report to Cabinet outlines the commissioning of a range of Information, advice, guidance and wellbeing support from the voluntary sector across Directorates, which focuses on promoting active, resilient communities, leading to better outcomes for individuals and reduced pressure on statutory services.

Following an extensive review, it recommends long-term contracts to voluntary organisations achieved through competitive tenders, or direct awards where no competition exists. Cabinet is asked to approve tenders for services such as carers support, Information, advice, guidance and wellbeing support for adults, young people, and families and mental health early intervention. The goal is to strengthen relationships with voluntary organisations, focusing on preventative support and early intervention to reduce service demand.

To ensure a smooth transition, Cabinet is also asked to agree to short-term extensions of existing contracts. Additionally, direct contract awards for domestic abuse support and services for parents of young children are requested. The report seeks to delegate authority for local Healthwatch services contractual arrangements, where the tender process is yet to be finalised for decision-making. The recommendations in this report align with the Council's strategy to enhance residents' independence and reduce reliance on statutory services.

ITEM 10 - DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT & ADAPTATIONS CONTRACTS FOR LIFTS

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Jonathan Bianco
Relevant Ward(s)	N/A
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources & Infrastructure

Information

The Council is committed to assisting residents in preserving their independence through property adaptations. These adaptations are varied, cost-effective, and high in volume, with funding adhering to statutory limits. The scope of each individual case is driven by occupational therapists' recommendations.

Some of the adaptations relate to lifts, so this report seeks Cabinet approval to award contracts for stairlifts, step lifts, vertical through floor lifts and ceiling track hoists.

ITEM 11 - PATHWAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - EXTENSION OF EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR STAYING CLOSE AND SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION PROVISION

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Susan O'Brien
Relevant Ward(s)	N/A
Relevant Select Committee	Children, Families & Education

Information

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for extending the current arrangements for the Staying Close and Supported Accommodation services for young people who are looked after or leaving care. These contractual extensions will allow the Council to utilise existing ringfenced grant funding and complete a full re-commissioning exercise to award a new contract in line with the Looked After Children's accommodation pathway from the age of 16 to independence. Such services support young people in the Council's care / care leavers towards independence.

ITEM 12 - APPROPRIATION OF RYFIELD CARETAKERS HOUSE, UXBRIDGE FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Jonathan Bianco
Relevant Ward(s)	Hillingdon East
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources and Infrastructure

Information

This report to Cabinet seeks to appropriate the Ryfield School Caretakers House, located at Ryfield Avenue, Uxbridge, from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to provide additional housing. The property was previously leased to the Vyners School Academy Trust, which has now surrendered it to the Council. In essence, the proposal will increase the housing stock to support demand for homelessness and other housing needs.

ITEM 13 - FLEET MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR CONTRACT

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Martin Goddard
Relevant Ward(s)	N/A
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources & Infrastructure

Information

This report seeks to extending the existing contract for maintaining the Council's fleet of 295 vehicles that provide front line services to residents.

ITEM 14 - MINOR PROPERTY TRANSACTION - AGREEMENT WITH WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Jonathan Bianco
Relevant Ward(s)	Hillingdon East
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources & Infrastructure

Information

The report seeks approval for an agreement between Wealdstone Football Club and the Council on two plots of land to enable the Club to develop proposals for a new football stadium and training facilities. Further information about the proposal can be found in the Council's press release: (link below)

[Council identifies land for Wealdstone FC to develop new stadium plans - Hillingdon Council](#)

ITEM 15 - MINOR PROPERTY TRANSACTION - VOLUNTARY SECTOR LEASE, ENDEAVOUR SEA SCOUTS, COWLEY

Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr Jonathan Bianco
Relevant Ward(s)	Colham & Cowley
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources & Infrastructure

Information

The report seeks approval from the Cabinet to grant a new lease for a new scout hut for the Endeavour Sea Scouts located at Moorfield Road, Cowley. This initiative is part of the Voluntary Sector Leasing Policy to support local organisations by providing discounted rent.

The new purpose-built scout hut is ready for occupation and will provide the Endeavour Sea Scouts with a modern facility to continue their activities, contributing positively to the community and supporting the development of young people in the area.