

## Minutes

**Executive Scrutiny Committee**  
**Thursday, 16 December 2010**  
**Meeting held at Committee Room 7 - Civic Centre,**  
**High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW**



	<p><b>Members Present:</b> Councillors Edward Lavery (Chairman), Brian Crowe, Mo Khursheed, Anita MacDonald, Mary O'Connor and John Riley</p> <p><b>Representative Member for Education Issues:</b> Tony Little (Roman Catholic Diocesan Representative).</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Councillor Brian Stead (Councillor Mary O'Connor substituting).</p> <p><b>Officer Present:</b> Khalid Ahmed (Democratic Services Manager).</p>	
27.	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>Councillor Anita MacDonald declared a Personal Interest in Cabinet Agenda Item 7 Financial Support to Voluntary Sector Organisations as she was a Councillor representative on Hillingdon Arts Association and her daughter used Hillingdon Music Service. She remained in the room and took part in discussions on the item.</p>	
	<p>Tony Little declared a Personal Interest in Cabinet Agenda Item 6 – The Council's Budget – Medium Term Financial Forecast 2011/12 – 2014/15 as he was a Governor at Pinkwell Primary School. He remained in the room and took part in discussions on the item.</p>	
28.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2010</b></p> <p>Agreed as an accurate record.</p>	
29.	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p>It was agreed that all items of business were considered in public.</p>	
30.	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF ANY CALL-INS OF DECISIONS MADE AT THE CABINET MEETING ON 16 DECEMBER 2010</b></p> <p>Members gave consideration to the Cabinet reports of 16 December 2010 and after careful consideration Members decided not to call-in any decision made by the Cabinet at their meeting.</p> <p>However further clarification was requested on the following Cabinet item:</p>	<p><b>Action By:</b></p>

**Cabinet Agenda Item 7 - Grants to Voluntary Organisations  
2011/12 Financial Year**

**Action By:**

Members requested further information on the women's group grants, namely in relation to whether there is any agreement / understanding in place between the Hillingdon Women's Centre who are to receive increased funding and the Hillingdon Asian Women's group and Hillingdon Somali Women's group, as to how the funds are to be allocated.

*[Subsequent to the meeting, officers provided the following response:*

*In preparing the recommendations for financial assistance for 2011/12 it was acknowledged that the Council was no longer able to support the same range of organisations as it has done in previous years.*

*The recommendation was to remove the core funding for the Hillingdon Asian Women's Group and the Somali Women's Group and to increase the funding to the Hillingdon Women's centre. The rationale being that the Council should not be supporting three organisations providing similar type of services but rather encourage collaboration and to support the Women's centre as the organisation affords the potential to deliver the widest range of services to all women in the borough.*

*To clarify, the recommendation was for funding to be committed to Hillingdon Women's centre; it will not be re-allocated via the Women's centre to either the Asian Women's group or the Somali Women's Group.*

*There have been several meetings between officers, and representatives of the three Women's groups to discuss closer collaboration, and whilst at the time of writing no formal agreement has been reached, the following is an extract of a letter received from Hillingdon Women's centre on 6th December which, highlights the nature and direction of discussions to date.*

*'Hillingdon Women's Centre are writing to you to express their desire to work towards becoming a partnership with Hillingdon Asian women's Group and the Hillingdon Somali Women's Group in the near future.*

*We would expect strong support from each other in the work that we do as individual organisations and to work together as an equal partnership. We would want to recognise each others strengths, and aid the development of each others organisations, with reference to our weaker aspects, in a women only supportive partnership. We would expect to learn a great deal from the development of this partnership.*

*As a group we would wish to achieve a co-ordinated delivery of*

