

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at www.merton.gov.uk/committee.

CABINET

30 JULY 2018

(7.15 pm - 7.36 pm)

PRESENT Councillors Councillor Stephen Alambritis (in the Chair),
Councillor Mark Allison, Councillor Kelly Braund,
Councillor Mike Brunt, Councillor Tobin Byers,
Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Councillor Nick Draper,
Councillor Edith Macauley and Councillor Martin Whelton

Ged Curran (Chief Executive), Hannah Doody (Director of
Community and Housing), Chris Chowns (Principal Transport
Planner), Caroline Holland (Director of Corporate Services),
Rachael Wardell (Director, Children, Schools & Families
Department), Fabiola Hickson (Manager business improvement
law) and James McGinlay (Assistant Director for Sustainable
Communities)
Louise Fleming (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2018 are agreed as an accurate record.

4 CRICKET GREEN SCHOOL EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD (Agenda Item 4)

The Cabinet Member for Education presented the report, which set out the results of a tender process for a contractor to undertake construction works to expand Cricket Green School. The expansion of the school would enable the school to continue to provide high quality education to children with special educational needs. The proposals were subject to the planning application being granted at the Planning Applications Committee. The Cabinet Member thanked all those involved in progressing the project, which was on schedule to be completed in time for the start of the September 2019 school year.

RESOLVED:

That the council award the contract for the school expansion construction works for Cricket Green School as outlined in the confidential appendix 1, subject to planning permission being granted by Planning Applications Committee.

5 LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 3 (LIP3) (Agenda Item 5)

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing and Transport presented the report which set out the objectives of the Mayor's Transport Plan, of which the Council had a duty to deliver as part of its Local Implementation Plan, and the timetable for approval and implementation. The Cabinet Member highlighted the focus on sustainable transport such as cycling and walking and the proposals for supporting those transport methods in the context of reduced resources and reduction in government grant to Transport for London.

RESOLVED:

1. That the approval process for LIP3 as outlined in the report be noted.
2. That the overarching MTS outcomes, draft borough trajectories and overall approach for developing LIP3 be noted.
3. That the delivery timescales set by TfL for delivering LIP3 be noted.
4. That the Director of Environment and Regeneration be given delegated authority to finalise the Council's LIP after consultation with the Cabinet Member.

6 ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT 2018: TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES - PROGRESS IN CLOSING THE GAP WITHIN MERTON (Agenda Item 6)

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health presented the statutory annual report of the Director of Public Health, highlighting the key points for consideration and the challenges faced in collecting data to measure inequality in the Borough. It was acknowledged that there were complex challenges ahead in tackling health inequality, and the Cabinet Member thanked all those involved for their work.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Engagement and Equalities advised the meeting that the report had also been considered at the Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations. The Committee had welcomed the work done by the Overview and Scrutiny task group on the prevention of diabetes in the South East Asian community, and it was hoped that those recommendations would continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Public Health Report (APHR) 2018 on Health Inequalities be received and noted; and endorsed for publication.

7 FINANCIAL REPORT 2018/19 – MAY 2018 (Agenda Item 7)

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance presented the report, thanking officers for their work and highlighting the key items for consideration. He emphasised that the report should be read in the context of the pressures put on local authorities as part of the government's austerity agenda and the pressures of an ageing population. The Cabinet Member highlighted the pressures on children's services and flagged up the projected overspend due to additional demands on Council services.

The Director of Corporate Services drew the meeting's attention to the progress against delivery of savings. Due to adjustments the projected shortfall had reduced and was projected to reduce further in 2019. Tracking savings not previously delivered was ensuring the Council kept an overview of the overall budget position.

RESOLVED:

1. That the financial reporting data relating to revenue budgetary control, showing a forecast net overspend at year end of £2 million be noted.
2. That the adjustments to the Capital Programme contained in Appendix 5b to the Cabinet report be noted, and the following adjustments to the Capital Programme be approved:

Scheme		2018/19 Budget	2019/20 Budget	2020/21 Budget	2021/22 Budget	Funding/Re-profiling
Corporate Services						
Aligned Assets		(75,000)	75,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Revenue and Benefits	(1)	(400,000)	400,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Capita Housing	(1)	(100,000)	100,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Planning & Public Protection Sys	(1)	(130,000)	130,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Spectrum Spatial Analyst Repla		(42,000)	42,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Replacement SC System	(1)	(400,000)	400,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Acquisitions Budget	(1)	(7,101,680)			7,101,680	Re-profiling
Capital Bidding Fund	(1)	(1,186,400)			1,186,400	Re-profiling
Children, Schools and Families						
Schools Maintenance		85,000	0	0	0	School Contributions
Perseid Expansion	(1)	260,000	0	0	0	Virement
Harris Merton Expansion	(1)	(260,000)	0	0	0	Virement
Harris Wimbledon Expansion	(1)	(572,570)	572,570	0	0	Re-profiling

Devolved Formula Capital	(1)	353,390				Specific Government Grant
Cricket Green Expansion	(1)	(1,000,000)	1,000,000	0	0	Re-profiling
Environment and Regeneration						
Street Lighting Replacement Pr	(1)	(200,000)	0	0	0	Virement
Borough Roads Maintenance	(1)	200,000	0	0	0	Virement
Transportation Enhancements	(1)	0	(500,000)	(1,000,000)	1,500,000	Re-profiling
Wandle Project	(1)	59,770	0	0	0	Section 106 Funding
Shop Front Improvements	(1)	264,000				CIL Neighbourhood Funding
Polka Theatre (Section 106)	(1)	149,950				Section 106 Funding
S106 Ravensbury Park Open Space	(1)	87,000	0	0	0	New S106 Scheme
Total		(10,008,540)	2,219,570	(1,000,000)	9,788,080	

*items marked with (1) only for Cabinet

3. That the £149,950 Section 106 funding for the Polka Theatre, £87,000 Section 106 funding for Ravensbury Park Open Space and £59,770 Section 106 funding for the Wandle Project be approved.

4. That a virement between the Environment & Regeneration and Corporate Services departments be approved as part of the ongoing process of centralising the authority's software licences to the Business Improvement division. The virement amount is £10,360 which relates to the Transport Services route optimisation and planning software.

5. That a virement of £350k from Corporate items to Corporate Services be approved to fund the recent local elections.

6. That a virement of £1.5m to gross up the Housing Benefits subsidy received on overpayments to align income and expenditure budgets within Corporate Services be approved.

7. That a release from reserve of £370k relating to the One Public Estate Programme for Wilson Hospital redevelopment (£110k), and Morden Town Centre (£260k) be approved.

8. That a virement of £25k from Corporate Services to E&R for the Christmas lights budget which is managed within sustainable communities be approved.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda Item 8)

Cabinet noted that the content of the exempt appendix at item 9 would not be discussed and therefore the meeting remained in public session, and the decision is set out at item 4 above.

9 CRICKET GREEN SCHOOL EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

AWARD - EXEMPT APPENDIX (Agenda Item 9)

The Cabinet noted that the content of the exempt appendix would not be discussed and therefore the meeting remained in public session. The decision is set out at item 4 above.