

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2023

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023 AT 1000 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOMS
3&4, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB**

PRESENT: -

Councillor Liz Clements, Cabinet Member for Transport
Councillor John Cotton, Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities
Councillor Jayne Francis, Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism
Councillor Brigid Jones, Deputy Leader of the City Council
Councillor Mariam Khan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care
Councillor Majid Mahmood, Cabinet Member for Environment
Councillor Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families
Councillor Yvonne Mosquito, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
Councillor Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness
Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of the City Council

ALSO PRESENT:-

Councillor Robert Alden, Leader of the Opposition (Conservative)
Councillor Jon Hunt, Leader of the Opposition (Liberal Democrat)
Councillor Ewan Mackey, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Conservative)
Janie Berry, City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Professor Graeme Betts, Director, Adult Social Care (DASS)
Richard Brooks, Director, Strategy Equalities and Partnerships (online)
Deborah Cadman, Chief Executive
Craig Cooper, Strategic Director of City Operations
Meena Chuhan, Interim Procurement Manager
Paul Kitson, Strategic Director Of Place, Prosperity And Sustainability
Dionne McAndrew, Assistant Director, Birmingham Children's Trust (online)
Fiona Greenway, Interim Assistant Director, Financial Performance and Insight
Susan Harrison, Director for Children and Families, BCC
Steve Sandercock, Assistant Director, Procurement (online)
Darren Share, Assistant Director, Street Scene
Carl Tomlinson, Interim Assistant Director, Finance Business Partnering (online)
Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health
Errol Wilson, Committee Services

NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

130. The Chair welcomed attendees and advised, and the Committee noted, that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Public-I microsite ([please click this link](#)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.
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APOLOGIES

131. Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Dr Peter Bishop, Darren Hockaday and Paul Kitson.
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DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

132. The Chair reminded Members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and other registerable interests arising from any business to be discussed at the meeting.

If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If other registerable interests are declared a Member may speak on the matter only if members of the public are allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', Members do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that they have an interest.

Any declarations will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

MINUTES

133. **RESOLVED:** -

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

EXEMPT INFORMATION – POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair advised that the report at Agenda item 20 contained an exempt appendix within the meaning of Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

The Chair then enquired whether there were any matters that Members would like to raise on the exempt appendix that may affect the decision to be made or to ask for clarification on a point on the exempt appendix.

As there were no matters that Members wished to raise in relation to the exempt appendices, the Chair advised that the public meeting would carry on to consider the recommendations.

134. RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of those parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information.

CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

135. The Chair advised that the Deputy Leader had submitted an apology for lateness and that he would take Agenda items 7 to 12 ahead of item 6 until the Deputy Leader arrives as she had a prior engagement.
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CO-PRODUCED REVIEW OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES POST-PANDEMIC

Councillor Mariam Khan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care presented the report and drew the attention of the Committee to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 1)

In response to questions and comments Councillor Mariam Khan made the following statements:-

- Councillor Mariam Khan noted the points raised by Councillor Robert Alden in relation to the information on page 22 of the report and advised that these would be included as part of the next stages as already been mentioned.
- Some of the key findings linking into Councillor Mackey's comments around ensuring that the voice of the users were heard throughout the report and that this initial stage and will ensure that this include the external and internal review going forward has been heard and listened to.
- Councillor Khan gave assurance that the work that had been done through the Red Quadrant working with Council officers that there was assurance of the findings of what we had was led by working with the people using the services i.e. families, carers and residents who were using the services.

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

- In terms of Councillor Alden's comment concerning the spend this would be monitored closely and reviewed throughout the process.

It was

136. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Noted the content of the report;
- (ii) Authorised the co-production of a commissioning strategy for external day opportunity services in response to the findings of the report;
- (iii) Authorised the co-production of a service improvement plan for internal day centres;
- (iv) Approved for a co-produced commissioning strategy and co-produced service improvement plan to be presented to Cabinet by December 2023;
- (v) Delegated to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care the future procurement and contract award of coproduction partners, if required, up to a maximum value of £100,000.

BIRMINGHAM FOOD SYSTEM STRATEGY: A BOLDER, HEALTHIER, AND MORE SUSTAINABLE BIRMINGHAM

Councillor Mariam Khan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care presented the report and drew the attention of the Committee to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 2)

Councillor Hunt commented that the strategy was built on a lot of innovative things like community gardens and improved quality of catering etc. He wondered whether this was successfully built on what was already here in the city and that the same questions were made by the public such as allotments. Councillor Khan responded that there were engagements with the existing provisions through the Food Justice Network which was done extensively through the pandemic and that a number of links were made with organisations that were already existed in the city. Moving forward that work will continue with those organisations. In terms of the growing element mentioned by Councillor Hunt, urban growing was a key element of the enablement of the strategy and was something that we were specifically working with Johannesburg throughout collaboration with them and was also part of the City of Nature future aspect of the city plan.

It was

137. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- a) Formally approved the Birmingham Food System Strategy: A Bolder, Healthier, and More Sustainable Birmingham, as set out in the report and appended documents;
 - b) Endorsed immediate implementation of the Birmingham Food System Strategy: A Bolder, Healthier, and More Sustainable Birmingham;
 - c) Enabled the Health and Wellbeing Board and its sub forum, Creating a Healthy Food City Forum, to review and provide oversight of the Birmingham Food System Strategy; and
 - d) Ensured future updates on the progress of the Birmingham Food System Strategy are provided to Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care.
-

EDGBASTON CRICKET GROUND DEVELOPMENT

The Leader introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points. He added that a further report was to be submitted to Cabinet when the Green Book process was concluded.

(See document No. 3)

An extensive discussion then ensued, and it was

138. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Noted the contents of the report and the update on the proposed development of Edgbaston Cricket Ground;
- (ii) Noted the proposal for a further loan or investment facility of up to £32m (at current prices), subject to the completion of a satisfactory Green Book Appraisal, the granting of planning approval and agreement of satisfactory terms, including the provision of suitable security, with the Cricket Club;
- (iii) Authorised the Strategic Director of Place, Prosperity and Sustainability to appoint advisors to prepare the Green Book Appraisal to include specialist advice to assess the pricing point at commercial rate and funding strategy;
- (iv) Noted that in the event of the completion of a satisfactory Green Book Appraisal and other assurances a further report will be made to Cabinet;
- (v) Authorised the City Solicitor to negotiate, execute, seal and complete all necessary documentation to give effect to the above recommendations.

TYPHOO BUILDING REDEVELOPMENT FULL BUSINESS CASE

The Leader introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 4)

It was

139. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

1. Noted the Full Business Case for the derelict former Typhoon Building (attached at Appendix 1 to the report) at a total cost of £69.3m, approved by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) Board on 23 March 2023;
2. In its role as Accountable Body for the Enterprise Zone (EZ), approved Prudential Borrowing of £14.729m to fund the provision of grants to SDL (£14.3m) and the Council (£0.429m) to facilitate the delivery of the former Typhoon Building redevelopment;
3. Approved EZ capital grant funding of up to £0.429m to fund City Council project related costs;
4. Approved EZ grant of up to £14.300m to be awarded to SDL to provide funding for the project viability gap for the redevelopment of the Typhoon Factory as identified in the Full Business Case (FBC) subject to subsidy control compliance, restriction on title, planning consent and application of the Council's Social Value and Living Wage Policies; and
5. Authorised the City Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to negotiate, execute, seal and complete all necessary documents in connection with the above recommendations.

CONTRACT AWARD FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TYSELEY ERF, WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS AND HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE

Councillor Majid Mahmood, Cabinet Member for Environment introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report.

(See document No. 5)

An extensive discussion ensued, and the following is a summary of the principal points made:-

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

- Appendix 3 of the report spoke of the options appraisal work which acknowledge that that took place in November 2016 which was seven years ago.
- Looking through the report paragraph 1.1 spoke about 'Approval of award of contract for ...'
- Recommendation 2.1 '... including the re-development of the Kings Norton (Lifford Lane) waste management', this was not in the Cabinet report of 2018.
- The report was silent on what would happen to Castle Bromwich and Sutton Coldfield Household Recycling Centres from January 2024. Clarity on this point was needed.
- Paragraph 3.1 of the report referred to the reliance of the delegation approved by Cabinet of February 2018; this was repeated again on page 575 of the report which was five years ago.
- Paragraph 5.1 'The Cross-Party Group were engaged during the early stages of the procurement process on the Council's contract specification'. This had not met in 3 - 4 years and again that was a significant time ago that had been relied upon for providing the information.
- Paragraph 6.3.5 in relation to the financial implications investment for facilities that would be used for 10 years would be repaid over 30 years. Under the procurement implications – paragraph 6.4 – if you look at the Cabinet report of the 13 February 2018 there was no publicly available delegations as the only public decision was to note the contents of the report.
- The private report had a procurement strategy, but no explanation was made in this report as to the reason this was coming forward now and not three years ago.
- The people whom the delegations were given to listed a number of roles but only one of those roles still exist which would meant that the entire delegation would rest on the City Solicitor which as the only one left as still being in place.
- It was disappointing that we were still here with this 10 year to the extension of the contract. Until recently a report like this would have gone to the Scrutiny Committee for a detailed examination beforehand.

Darren Share, Assistant Director, Street Scene advised that this was a brand-new contract and that the delay was that the notice was release in February 2020 and then we went into lockdown. We then went into contract evaluation and competitive dialogue to appoint someone. The ongoing routine maintenance will be the responsibility of the contract which was brought into the negotiated contract. If we got a major incident such as one of the turbines going then some of the risk would be the responsibility of the contractor.

Councillor Mahmood advised that due to the heavy investment the downtime was the lowest experienced and as a result less waste was sent to landfill which meant that we made some savings in the landfill which allowed us to provide a better service.

It was

140. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

That Cabinet:-

- (a) Noted that the report relates solely to the award of a contract for the operation and maintenance of Tyseley ERF (Energy Recovery Facility), HWRCs (Household Waste Recycling Centre) and WTS (Waste Transfer Stations) at Tyseley, Kings Norton and Perry Barr, including the re-development of the Kings Norton (Lifford Lane) waste management;
- (b) Authorised the Strategic Director of City Operations in consultation with Cabinet Member for Environment, the Strategic Director of Council Management, the Interim Director of Finance and the City Solicitor to enter into a ten-year (10) Agreement with Veolia for the Transitional Contract for the Operation, Maintenance and Renewal of the Tyseley ERF, Waste Transfer Stations and Household Waste Recycling Centres commencing 17 January 2024 subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the Preferred Bidder stage;
- (c) Noted that, if the Council has to take-up contractual variations in relation to the option to extend for periods of up to a maximum of five (5) years for the Operation, Maintenance and Renewal of the Tyseley ERF, Waste Transfer Stations and Household Waste Recycling Centres, this would be subject to Cabinet authorisation based on budget availability, satisfactory performance, and timing of the Post 2034 Waste Disposal contract award/commencement;
- (d) Authorised capital expenditure for the redevelopment of the Kings Norton Facility; and
- (e) Authorised the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (or their delegate) to execute, seal and complete all necessary documentation to give effect to the above recommendations.

ARDEN CROSS LIMITED BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

The Leader introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 6)

Following a brief discussion it was

141. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Noted ACL's revenue budget for 2023/24 and approved Birmingham City Council's (BCC's) contribution as per the terms of the ACL Shareholders Agreement; approved on the 28 October 2020; and

- (ii) Authorised the City Solicitor (or their delegate) to negotiate, execute and complete all relevant documentation required to give effect to the above recommendation.

EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION – PROGRAMME BUSINESS CASE

Councillor Brigid Jones, Deputy Leader presented the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 7)

In response to questions and comments the Deputy Leader made the following statements:-

- ✓ The post will be at a director level. In terms of Cabinet portfolios, this cuts across all of the Cabinet portfolios because everyone had a part of it in their briefs.
- ✓ What was done at the moment was so scattergun when it came to intervention and prevention as front door services. The reason her name was on the report, and she was heading it up was to bring some consolidation across everything. This was a team effort.
- ✓ How this worked going forward was dependent on the final design as there were some bits that were tangled up with current services where we might have accountability laying in a particular way which needed to be worked out.
- ✓ It was not to create new silos but to ensure we had things working seamlessly from our citizens point of view

Professor Graeme Betts, Director, Adult Social Care (DASS) stated that the point to bore in mind was that this was a long-complicated journey we were on in terms of taking this forward. We needed to work things through to ensure we did not end up with new silos which was a point well made. When we did similar work in Adult Social Care, we had to be mindful that in any new system we will still need to have in place arrangement for early intervention and prevention and in the meantime manage commitments and crisis intervention was the reality of the situation. How we did that going forward we thought we could improve upon. This was the guiding principle behind what we were trying to do.

It was

142. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Agreed the early intervention and prevention approach is the direction of travel for the Council and applies across the whole organisation (see section 3.15 and 3.29 of the report);

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

- (ii) Approved the establishment of a new Directorate for Early Intervention & Prevention: City Help and Support (see section 3.13 to 3.16 and section 4 of the report and Appendix 1 to the report);
- (iii) Granted delegated authority to the Chief Executive, the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care, the HR Director and the Director of Council Management to approve the new structures for the Directorate;
- (iv) Approved the utilisation of £14.7m to support the transition and transformation of the in-scope services (see section 9 of the report and Appendix 1);
- (v) Delegated authority to Strategic Director of Adult Social Care, the Assistant Director of Corporate Procurement, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources, and the City Solicitor to approve any procurement strategies and subsequent contract award decisions required to support the implementation of the recommendations within the report;
- (vi) Approved the implementation of the Homes and Money Advice service blueprint in full, leveraging the learning and insight from the pilot (see section 3.24 of the report and Appendix 3);
- (vii) Approved the Shard End Delivery Plan, which outlines how we will be deploying the Place Based Approach across the city in line with delivering EI&P outcomes (see section 3.25 of the report and Appendix 4);
- (viii) Noted the alignment of the EI&P approach with the emerging development of the Corporate Landlord approach, which will be a key enabler of EI&P, and the wider Place Based Approach; and
- (ix) Noted the IAG vision and approach, which will facilitate a more effective self-service model to provide high quality, consistent services that support resilience and independence (see section 3.26 of the report and Appendix 5).

HIGHBURY ESTATE – HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND BID SUPPORT AND ESTATE MANAGEMENT

The Leader introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 8)

The Deputy Leader commented that although a request was made to the report author to correct the error in paragraph 5.1 of the report i.e. she was no longer a Trustee of the Highbury Estate, the information was not corrected.

It was

143. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

1. Authorised the provision of an additional £1.500m grant funding funded from corporate resources as match to support an increased bid of £4.632m by CHT jointly with BCC to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). This increases the total grant from the City Council to £3.500m, including £0.150m for the development phase;
2. Authorised the underwrite of a further £1.000m of fundraising by the CHT, taking the total underwrite to £2.000m in support of the NLHF bid for grant funding for the refurbishment of Highbury Hall;
3. Authorised the Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability (PPS) to submit a grant application to NLHF jointly with CHT for full delivery grant of £4.632m;
4. Authorised the Strategic Director PPS to accept the NLHF grant and to place orders and disbursements as appropriate to complete the Highbury project, noting the inclusion of a procurement of capital works contractors for both the mansion and landscape up to a total value of £9.600m, subject to successful Delivery Phase fundings from NLHF;
5. Approved the release of funding for development stage fees up to and including RIBA Stage 3;
6. Authorised the Director Council Management to update the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Council and CHT as required prior to the full application to NLHF in August and as required during the project delivery;
7. Authorised the novation of the CHT appointed professional team (Architectural Design Team, Interpretation Planner and Designer, Quantity Surveyor, Project Manager, Business Planner, Evaluation Consultant) from CHT to the Council, PPS Directorate, subject to successful Delivery Phase funding from NLHF;
8. Noted that the balance of the £2.000m sum approved in September 2018 as match funding towards the Highbury Hall restoration and refurbishment works is still subject to the submission of a satisfactory business case to be approved by the Director Council Management which reduces and eventually eliminates the ongoing revenue cost to the Council. This sustainable business proposition will also form part of the final NLHF submission by CHT;
9. Noted that there remains approval to drawdown of up to £0.150m for the development phase from the £2.000m capital funding allocated by Cabinet on 18 September 2018, subject to successful NHLF funding approval, noting that, should the project not proceed to delivery stage then this capital sum becomes repayable to the council. To date £0.070m of the £0.150m has been drawn down; and

10. Authorised the City Solicitor to negotiate, execute and complete all relevant documentation to give effect to the above recommendations.
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DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING AT DAWBERRY FIELDS ROAD

Councillor Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 9)

Councillor Robert Alden sought clarification concerning consultation with the Ward Members. Councillor Thompson stated that following on from an email she had spoken with both Ward Councillors and had had a meeting with them with officers. She had also seen the site and had followed up on those points. The comments were reflective of how Councillor Lisa Trickett felt, and she wanted to ensure that she did not try to eliminate her feelings around that. If this was approved by Cabinet once it goes to the planning stages Councillor Trickett and residents of the local community could make representation to the Planning Committee.

Paul Kitson, Strategic Director Of Place, Prosperity And Sustainability advised that the scheme met two of the key objectives for the City Council – the increase in housing supply and our commitment to Net Zero. It was important that the City Council in its ambition to deliver more homes under the Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) label addresses and taps into a range of different construction methods and standards. It was also important that we stretch ourselves especially when the benefits in this case was keenly felt by residents. These schemes although slightly more expensive than conventionally built properties could outperform in energy consumption terms dramatically on conventionally build and therefore we would see some of the energy savings the residents would have. We were convinced that this was the right technical solution to try, and we did not think that doing a trial of two or three homes were particularly helpful. We were pleased with the social rent, and it was important that we recognised that we lose every year a number of homes through Right to Buy something around 600, but this varies each year. It was important that we focus on social rent in order to get some of that ground back.

It was

144. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Approved the FBC attached to the report as Appendix A for the Scheme and delegated any changes to the FBC for the Scheme financial expenditure of up to 20% to the Strategic Director, Place, Prosperity & Sustainability;

Cabinet Committee – 25 April 2023

- (ii) Approved the procurement strategy and commencement of the procurement activity for the housing development and associated works for the Scheme using the Homes England Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) Framework Agreement;
- (iii) Delegated the approval of the contract award for the Scheme to the Strategic Director of Place, Prosperity and Sustainability in conjunction with the Assistant Director of Procurement (or their delegate), the Strategic Director of Council Management (or their delegate) and the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (or their delegate) subject to the costs being within the FBC approval in accordance with paragraph 2.1 of the report;
- (iv) Authorised the Strategic Director Place, Prosperity & Sustainability to seek consent from the Secretary of State under Section 174 of Localism Act 2011, to exclude the new council properties developed through the Scheme from the Right to Buy pooling requirements, and to ensure that any capital receipts generated from any future sale of homes under the Right to Buy are retained by the Council for reinvestment in future housing delivery;
- (v) Authorised the Assistant Director, Transport and Connectivity to grant technical approval of the Scheme highways proposals and progress the preferred option to detailed design which will be the responsibility of the appointed contractor;
- (vi) Authorised the Director of Planning, Transport & Sustainability to submit and process all necessary highway closures and notices required to facilitate the Scheme highlighted in the FBC and to enter into any appropriate agreements for the creation, improvement and alterations to highway access to the sites;
- (vii) Delegated to the Strategic Director Place, Prosperity & Sustainability the power to amend or vary the development boundaries by up to 10% for the Scheme;
- (viii) Delegated authority to the Strategic Director Place, Prosperity & Sustainability to submit funding applications to Homes England (HE), West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), European Regional Fund or any other funding agency and accepted successful applications to facilitate the Scheme development where required; and
- (ix) Authorised the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (or their delegate) to take all steps necessary for the preparation of any documents, to negotiate, execute and complete all necessary documentation to give effect to the above recommendations.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION GRANT ALLOCATION 2023-25

Councillor Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 10)

It was

145. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- (i) Authorised the acceptance of the relevant additional Homelessness Prevention Grant amounts for 2023-24 of £2,706,929 and 2024-25 of £2,801,307;
- (ii) Authorised the expenditure programme set out in Appendix 1 which focuses upon homeless prevention activities;
- (iii) Delegated authority to the Director, Housing Solutions and Support Service following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing & Homelessness, to use any unallocated Grant as permitted under any grant conditions to make further adjustments as necessary to ensure full utilisation of this grant;
- (iv) Delegated authority to the Strategic Director for City Housing (or their delegate), following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing & Homelessness, to accept and expend grant funding in line with the Grant Conditions any further HPG allocations made within these 2 financial year periods; and
- (v) Authorised the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (or their delegate) to negotiate and complete any agreements to give effect to the above decisions

HAMILTON SCHOOL – APPROVAL FOR CAPITAL WORKS TO CREATE A TEMPORARY TWO-STOREY CLASSROOM BLOCK, PLAY AREA AND CAR PARKING TO INCREASE TO KS3 PROVISION

Councillor Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 11)

Following discussions by Cabinet, it was

146. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet:-

- a. Approved the Full Business Case (Appendix A) for the temporary two-storey modulars capital scheme at Hamilton School at a total project cost of up to £2,704,224 including Education Infrastructure Capitalisation of £78,764, Professional Fees of £142,531, Loose Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment of £38,250 and Client Contingency of £166,171;
- b. Authorised the Director of Children & Families to place orders to the value of £142,531 to Acivico Ltd for technical professional services;
- c. Authorised the Director of Council Management and the City Solicitor to negotiate, execute and complete all necessary documents to give effect to the above recommendations; and
- d. Authorised the relevant decision maker to approve any overspend in a revised Full Business Case in line with resource thresholds outlined in the constitution document.

**HM INSPECTORATE OF PROBATION INSPECTION OF YOUTH
OFFENDING SERVICES IN BIRMINGHAM – DECEMBER 2022**

Councillor Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 12)

In response to questions Cllr McCarthy advised that the resettlement issue as one of the 11 points for improvement would be covered in the development plan which will report into the Youth Offending Service Partnership Board and to the Birmingham Children's Trust Executive and Scrutiny will also want to play a role in this. They saw the progress report leading up to the inspection. The SENDIASS report would be submitted at the Cabinet meeting in May 2023 in terms of the development plan and all those activities within the Youth Offending Service will be addressed and we will have learned as the Trust had from the work of the SEND Improvement Board about how improvement was achieved.

Dionne McAndrew, Assistant Director, Birmingham Children's Trust stated that when we last came to Cabinet with the Youth Justice Strategic Plan we were asked what HMIP would see when they came to reinspect the service and we were transparent in that they would say that they had seen improvements, but we still needed to do more. The context for that was that the Youth Offending Service was the biggest in Europe and as a city with specific challenges with vulnerable children a lot of the high-risk activities taking place. It was turning around a big ship in a short space of time and two years of that we were in and out of lockdown, so we were aware of the challenge we faced. When we were last inspected in 2020 we were just one point off inadequate. Following the statement that was made by HMIP in the last inspection report was that to avoid becoming inadequate we needed to make improvement at pace, and we needed to have a high level of scrutiny.

Since that time we did a much wider review than what HMIP had done in the last inspection, we had an indebt review of our improvement plan and established an independent chair to the Board and configured the whole membership so that we had high scrutiny in place and focussed on the children being first. We took a child first approach, increased our senior management capacity and started remodelling the whole service. That work was still ongoing. Whilst the latest inspection report spoke of 11 recommendations, what it failed to say was that nine of those recommendations including the work around resettlement, risk management around SEND diversity were already contained in our improvement plan as we had already identified these issues ourselves and work was already underway and was continuing at the moment.

Ms McAndrew assured Members that the issues that had been highlighted by HMIP were in hand and there were only two new ones for the service. We were confident we could deliver; we had the capacity and the determination within the service and the support of our leadership team in terms of driving forward the rest of the recommendations.

It was

147. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet noted the inspection report which was published in March 2023 and is appended to this report.

PROGRESS REPORT – COST OF LIVING EMERGENCY PROGRAMME

Councillor John Cotton, Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report highlighting the key points.

(See document No. 13)

Following discussions by Cabinet, it was

148. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet noted the contents of the report and provided comment to inform further development of our Cost-of-Living response.

KEY DECISION PLANNED PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES (MAY 2023 – JULY 2023)

Councillor Yvonne Mosquito, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources introduced the item and drew the attention of Cabinet to the information contained in the report.

(See document No. 14)

Councillor Alden referred to points 2, 3 and 4 and enquired whether Cabinet was now happy with the resources. Councillor Mosquito undertook to speak with Councillor Alden outside the meeting. It was

149. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: -

That Cabinet approved the planned procurement activities as set out in Appendix 1 to the report and approved Chief Officer delegations, set out in the Constitution, for the subsequent decisions around procurement strategy and contract awards.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

150. a) Councillor John Hunt

The Leader stated that Councillor John Hunt had advised that he was standing down as the Leader of the local Liberal Democrat Group and that this might possibly be his last attendance at the Cabinet meetings. The Leader further stated that it was appropriate to place on record our thanks to Councillor Hunt for his contributions to these meetings over a number of years. The Leader expressed thanks to Councillor Hunt on behalf of the Cabinet.

Councillor Robert Alden echoed the Leader's comments and stated that Councillor Hunt had served the Liberal Democrat Group in Birmingham well and will continue to serve the residents of Perry Barr well for many years to come. Councillor Ewan Mackey echoed the comments of the Leader and Councillor Alden and stated that Councillor Hunt was quite helpful and that he will be sadly missed.

Councillor John Hunt expressed thanks for the kind words and advised that he would not be at the Cabinet meeting in May.

b) Oracle

Councillor Robert Alden stated that with the situation around Oracle, consultants and new expenditures in trying to fix that and appreciating that the commitment to bring a Financial Monitoring report monthly technically expired at the end of March 2023, it was felt that the next Cabinet meeting ought to have a monitoring report and also a report on the status of Oracle and what new expenditure had been spent to try and resolve the issue so that Cabinet was fully abreast of what the current situation was. Councillor Alden requested that those two reports be submitted at the next Cabinet meeting.

The Leader responded that on the Financial Report it was not our intention to bring a monthly report next month and suggested that a conversation be had about that outside the meeting. He added that he was happy for a report to be brought on Oracle at the appropriate moment when we had something to report on to Cabinet and it was doubtful whether we would be in a position to do that next month. The Leader gave an undertaking that a report would be submitted at some point when appropriate.

The meeting ended at 1141 hours.

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CHAIRPERSON