At a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 15 October 2013 at 7:00 pm at Committee Rooms 1 & 2, Civic Centre, Lampton Road, Hounslow.

Present:
Councillor Colin Ellar, Deputy Leader/Vice Chair – in the Chair

Councillors Lily Bath, Tom Bruce, Steve Curran, Ajmer Grewal, Ed Mayne and Shantanu Rajawat.

Apologies for Absence

Councillors Jagdish Sharma, Pritam Grewal and Sue Sampson.

In Attendance

Councillor Liz Mammatt

50. Apologies for absence, declarations of interest or any other communications from Members

Apologies had been received from Councillor Sharma, Councillor Pritam Grewal and Councillor Sampson, who was unwell.

There were no declarations or communications from members.

51. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2013 were confirmed. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

52. CA 428 - Revised School Effectiveness Strategy for London Borough of Hounslow

See the report by Councillor Tom Bruce, Cabinet Member for Education and Human Resources (HR) – Agenda Item 3.

Councillor Tom Bruce, Cabinet Member for Education and Human Resources introduced the report and drew attention to the recommendation to adopt the Strategy. He explained that the Appendix to the report set out the ways in school effectiveness would be achieved and what the authority was doing for all schools in the borough. There were three levels of intervention. These were a light touch; a focus school whereby there might be a working relationship to identify what might be required to be improved for the school to move to be rated as ‘good’; and intensive support and formal intervention. This last category would apply if there were serious weaknesses and would involve the authority working very closely with the school and intervening formally if necessary, including taking a view on the Head and Governors. Formal intervention was not a stage that the authority would wish to reach but the purpose of the document was to have a range of strategies available to ensure school effectiveness. Councillor Bruce moved the recommendations of the report.
Resolved:

That the recommendations of the report were agreed as follows:

1. The Cabinet adopted the revised School Effectiveness Strategy (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report), as the Council’s policy for school improvement with effect from 1st November 2013.
2. The Cabinet agreed to receive periodic reports on the impact of the strategy and any reviews of the policy.

53. CA 430 - Development of Linden Bennett SEN Provision

See the report by Councillor Tom Bruce, Cabinet Member for Education and Human Resources (HR) – Agenda Item 4.

Councillor Tom Bruce, Cabinet Member for Education and Human Resources, introduced the report which considered the outcome of the informal consultation exercise to expand Linden Bennett School and sought approval to publish a statutory notice for expansion to meet the Special Educational Needs (SEN) for children in the borough. Councillor Bruce moved the recommendations of the report.

These were seconded by Councillor Lily Bath and Councillor Rajawat. Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet considered the outcome of the informal consultation exercise which was undertaken to expand Linden Bennett School from 101 to 130 places with effect from September 2015. The Cabinet noted that paragraph 3.3 of the report provided a summary of the response received to the consultation.
2. The Cabinet agreed to publish a Statutory Notice in accordance with the Secretary of State’s guidance.
3. The Cabinet agreed to delegate the decision to expand the school to the Cabinet Member for Education, taking into account any feedback from the statutory notice period, unless there are significant objections.

54. CA 435 - Annual Report of the Adults Safeguarding Board April 2012 to March 2013

See the report by Councillor Shantanu Rajawat, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Services – Agenda Item 5.
Councillor Shantanu Rajawat, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Services, reminded members that the Adult Safeguarding Board was an independent board. This comprehensive report was from the Independent Chair of the Board. He was sure that Cabinet members would be reassured by the report. He stressed that as Lead Member he took safeguarding seriously and was in regular contact with the Assistant Directors on this issue.

Members noted the report.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet noted the annual report of the Independent Chair of the Hounslow Safeguarding Adults Board (2012-2013).

55. CA 433 - Implementation of the Fairer Charging Policy

See the report by Councillor Shantanu Rajawat, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Services – Agenda Item 6.

Councillor Shantanu Rajawat, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Services, introduced the report which resulted from consultation last year. He explained that the Department of Health defined Disability Related Expenditure as any reasonable additional expenditure incurred for independent living through disability or illness. It was considered fairer to set a fixed rate for all residents. This was consistent with other boroughs and the proposed rate of £15.90 per week was in the mid range compared to other boroughs. Councillor Rajawat moved the recommendations of the report.

These were seconded by Councillor Steve Curran. Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet agreed implementation of the consulted Fairer Charging Policy, in respect of:

   a) Simplifying the financial assessment process by introducing a fixed rate of £15.90 per week (subject to annual review and uplift) for Disability Related Expenditure.
   b) Full cost recovery for all services (except Meals on Wheels) managed or commissioned by the Council.
   c) Improving information provided to residents on financial assessments, charging and personal budgets by implementing an Organisational Information Strategy relating to Adult Social Care Services. This would also incorporate any agreed changes.

2. The Cabinet agreed a minimum weekly threshold of £7.50 (subject to annual review) for charging for all Social Care Services.
56. **REG 95- Bed and Breakfast and Temporary Accommodation Proposals**

See the report by Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration – Agenda Item 7.

Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration, moved the recommendations of the report and in doing so drew attention to Section 2 which set out the issues the Council had faced since the administration took office in May 2010. The situation was not getting easier but the present proposed actions built on the work already done to try to reduce the pressure on temporary accommodation. Further work was still needed but this was a step in the right direction.

Councillor Rajawat seconded the motion. Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

**Resolved:**

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet agreed to make use of the Allocation Policy to prioritise move-on of long stay households in temporary and bed & breakfast accommodation.
2. The Cabinet agreed to offer targeted and incentivised move-on packages to households in bed & breakfast and temporary accommodations to areas of their choice that are more affordable.
3. The Cabinet agreed to pursue the acquisition of properties listed in the report.
4. The Cabinet agreed to expand the use of nightly paid self-contained annexes/flats which are cost neutral to the Council, instead of ‘spot purchasing’ bed & breakfast accommodation at high rates which is capped at the 1 bed Temporary Accommodation (TA) subsidy rate.
5. The Cabinet agreed to accelerate key and dependent ICT upgrade schemes to facilitate implementation of actions to reduce TA budget pressures.

57. **CR 108- Sponsorship and Advertising Strategy**

See the report by Councillor Jagdish Sharma, Leader of the Council – Agenda Item 8.

Councillor Colin Ellar, Deputy Leader, moved the recommendations of the report in Councillor Sharma’s absence. The purpose was to increase advertising in outdoor locations in the Council’s ownership in a sensitive but lucrative way which would help both businesses in the borough and the Council’s budget.

Councillor Steve Curran seconded the motion. Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

**Resolved:**

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:
1. The Cabinet agreed to adopt the Sponsorship & Advertising Strategy attached at Annex 1 of the report, to generate new income to the borough which can be offset against future savings targets;

2. The Cabinet agreed, as part of the strategy, to approve large format advertising in key sites identified by the Business Development and Planning teams;

3. The Cabinet agreed to implement the strategy using the most appropriate means, including through the use of third party specialists (for example, in selling roundabout advertising) and use of the Council’s trading company, Lampton 360 Ltd, to sell advertising space.

4. The Cabinet agreed to approve the Advertising Code of Conduct attached as Annex 2 to the report to ensure that all advertising is ethical.

5. **REG 120 - Heston Leisure Centre Redevelopment Appropriation of Land to Planning Purposes and relocation of charitable trusts onto Heston Park**

See the report by Councillor Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Public Health – Agenda Item 9.

Councillor Colin Ellar, in the Chair, noted that many would welcome the proposals in this report being brought to fruition.

Councillor Ajmer Grewal, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Public Health, agreed, in introducing the report, that it was indeed welcomed. There were five recommendations relating to the appropriation of land and the relocation of charitable trusts. She moved the recommendations.

These were seconded by Councillor Shantanu Rajawat, who noted that the development had been a long time coming and congratulated those involved on achieving this point. Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

**Resolved:**

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet resolved that, having duly considered the objections, it was considered that notwithstanding those objections, the parcels of land coloured blue on plan B attached at Appendix A of the report are no longer required for open space purposes for the reasons set out in the report.

2. The Cabinet resolved that the parcels of land coloured blue on plan B at Appendix A of the report are appropriated from open space purposes to planning purposes under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972.

3. The Cabinet resolved that the parcels of land coloured yellow on plan B attached at Appendix A of the report are no longer required for the purposes for which they are held and are appropriated for planning purposes under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4. The Cabinet authorised officers to record the abovementioned appropriation of the land by certificate or deed or otherwise on the earliest practicable date following this meeting.

5. The Cabinet resolved that the land on Heston Park (outlined in orange on the plan attached at Appendix B of the report) be encumbered by the relocation of two charitable trusts to be removed from Sites A and C (outlined in blue on the plan attached at Appendix B) subject to resolution by The Trusteeship Panel approving that the trusts be
relocated and entry to the Deeds of Substitution (or other suitable legal instrument), and subject to an order or orders currently being sought from the Charity Commissioners to authorise the substitution of the land held in trust for the land at Heston Park.

59. CR 105- Procurement Quarterly Update

See the report by Councillor Sue Sampson, Cabinet Member for Performance and Customer Care – Agenda Item 10.

Councillor Colin Ellar, Deputy Leader, moved the recommendations of the report as Councillor Sue Sampson was absent due to sickness.

Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet approved the additions to the Annual Procurement Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. The Cabinet noted the number of Waivers granted to the Authorities Tender and Contract Regulations as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report and the breakdown by Department at Appendix 3 of the report.

60. CR 86- Monthly Financial Monitoring

See the report by Councillor Jagdish Sharma, Leader of the Council – Agenda Item 11.

The Chair introduced the report and moved the recommendations in Councillor Sharma’s absence. These were seconded by Councillor Shantanu Rajawat.

Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. Cabinet members noted the following:
   1.1 Projected revenue outturn for 2013/14.
   1.2 Performance against the key corporate financial indicators.
   1.3 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) performance for the period to 31 August 2013.
   1.4 Update on the delivery of 2013/14 savings.
2. Cabinet members approved the following recommendations:
   2.1 Cabinet members agreed to combine the two existing reserves, Chief Executive Performance Improvement Fund and Leaders Improvement Fund into one
Performance Improvement Fund with a balance of £2.0m, thereby transferring £1.6m to the Special Contingency Reserve.

2.2 Cabinet members agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive and Leader for approving expenditure from the Performance Improvement Fund.

61. **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

62. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

Councillor Shantanu Rajawat moved the exclusion of press and public. This was seconded by Councillor Steve Curran and agreed. Those members of the public attending left the meeting at this point.

Resolved:

That the public and press be asked to leave the meeting during discussion of the remaining items of business because exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is likely to be made known.

63. **REG 105- Land adjacent to Sandbanks, Southville Road, Feltham**

Reference the confidential report, exempt from information, by Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration – Agenda Item 14.

Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration, moved the recommendations of the report. These were seconded by Councillor Shantanu Rajawat.

Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed to the open market disposal of surplus land adjacent to Sandbanks, Southville Road, Feltham, TW14 8AP by competitive tender.

64. **REG 113 - Compulsory Purchase Order - 761 London Road, TW3 1SE**

Reference the confidential report, exempt from information, by Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration – Agenda Item 15.

Councillor Steve Curran, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration, moved the recommendations of the report. These were seconded by Councillor Tom Bruce.

Members considered the report and all the issues and options contained therein and in conclusion the recommendations were agreed.
Resolved:

That the Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the report as follows:

1. The Cabinet agreed the use of Compulsory Purchase powers by the Council under Section 17 Housing Act 1985 and the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 to acquire the land and property known as 761 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW3 1SE shown edged red on the plan shown in Appendix 1 to this report in order to bring the property back into beneficial residential use and occupation.

2. The Cabinet agreed to the Assistant Director Corporate Governance being authorised to make and seal the Order and to take all steps necessary to submit the Order to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for consideration and approval and, in the event of the Secretary of State approving the Order, to proceed with the acquisition.

3. The Cabinet agreed to the Assistant Director Corporate Governance being authorised in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, Economic Development and Environment to accept and enforce a legally binding undertaking by or on behalf of the owner of the property to bring the property into beneficial residential use and occupation without the need to proceed with the Order where this can be achieved within a reasonable timescale.

4. The Cabinet agreed to the disposal of the property subject to confirmation of the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to a Registered Provider (RP) with a nomination agreement to the Council, or to a private owner or developer (in which case the sale would be by way of auction with covenants imposed to bring the property into repair and beneficial use as a three-bedroomed family dwelling as soon as practicable).

65. **Any other items which the Chair considers urgent and are exempt from publication**

There was no urgent business exempt from publication.

The meeting finished at 7:14 pm. **Decisions, as recorded in these minutes, have been taken for the reasons set out in the published reports and following consideration of any alternative options outlined in the published reports. Any conflicts of interest have been declared at agenda item 1**