

COUNCIL Minutes

Place

**Council Chamber - Town Hall, Wellington Street,
Woolwich SE18 6PW**

Date

Wednesday 27 July 2016

Time

7.00 pm

Present

The Worshipful Mayor

Councillor Olu Babatola

Councillors:

Norman Adams

Tonia Ashikodi

Don Austen

Barbara Barwick

Linda Bird

Geoffrey Brighty

Peter Brooks

Matthew Clare

Angela Cornforth

Mark Elliott

John Fahy

David Gardner

Nuala Geary

Christine Grice

Matt Hartley

Mick Hayes

John Hills

Denise Hyland

Mark James

Rajinder James

Sizwe James

Mehboob Khan

Chris Kirby

Averil Lekau

Chris Lloyd

Allan MacCarthy

Clive Mardner

Christine May

Sarah Merrill

Clare Morris

Paul Morrissey

Matthew Morrow

Maureen O'Mara

Steve Offord

Gary Parker

Denise Scott-

McDonald

Harpinder Singh

Aidan Smith

Jackie Smith

David Stanley

Danny Thorpe

Ray Walker

Miranda Williams

Minutes

Item

No.

1 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mandy Brinkhurst, Stephen Brain, Wynn Davies, Spencer Drury, Bill Freeman, Ambreen Hisbani and Cherry Parker.

2 **Minutes**

The Mayor informed the meeting that the Minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Council had not been published in time to be considered at this meeting. It was stated that draft minutes had been published to the Council's website and that they would be submitted to the next ordinary meeting for confirmation.

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 11 July 2016 be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

3 **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor made the following announcements;

That GS Plus had won the prestigious 'Nan Berger Memorial Award' trophy at the Lead Association for Catering in Education (LACA) Awards ceremony which had been held at the 'Hilton Metropole' in Birmingham on Thursday evening .

That the Council had won the Private Rented Sector Award at the 2016 Housing Design Awards for Creekside Wharf. Councillor Thorpe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Sustainability, presented the certificate to Alex Smith, Assistant Area Planning Manager.

That the Council had been awarded just under £1m by the Mayor of London following a successful bid to the Mayor's Air Quality fund and that this funding would be combined with another £1m previously secured as part of the Horizon 2020 European programme, to introduce a Low Emission Neighbourhood in parts of Greenwich West and Peninsula wards over three years.

That, as part of the recent Government reshuffle, former Greenwich Councillor, Liz Truss, was appointed as the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice and will be the first female Lord Chancellor in 950 years of that post existing. The Mayor stated that this was obviously a major achievement for one of the Council's former Members.

That the Freedom of the Borough certificate had been presented formally to Mr Frank Zemke on a recent Members' visit to Reindickendorf . Council noted that Mr Zemke was very thankful, honoured and surprised to receive the award.

It was with regret that the Mayor informed the Council of the death of former Councillor Chris Jeffrey who was a councillor between 1974 and 1986 and amongst many roles served as the Chair of the Establishment Committee. Councillor Adams and MacCarthy addressed the Chamber stating that Mr Jeffrey was a dedicated Councillor and his commitment to the Borough and residents was unwavering. The Council rose to observe a minutes silence in memory of former councillor Chris Jeffrey.

The Mayor requested that the Council take this opportunity to remember the innocent people killed in the recent terrorist attacks in Nice, Munich, Ruen and Baghdad.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Resolved -

That the list of Councillors' memberships as Council appointed representatives on outside bodies, joint committees and school Governing Bodies be noted.

5 Notice of Members wishing to exceed the 5 minute rule

The Council noted that there had been no requests to exceed the five minute rule

6 Petitions

The following petitions were presented at the meeting;

Subject and Number of Signatures	Presented by	Lead Department
Block 3, Greenwich Square; object to the Minor Material Amendment Application 125 signatures	Councillor Chris Lloyd	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills
Request to for action on non-resident parking in Reventlow/Gaitskell/Nov ar Roads 59 signatures	Councillor Matt Clare	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills

7 Public Deputations on matters not otherwise on the agenda

The Mayor informed the Council that he had agreed to Lucy Isiah, Woolwich Common Tenant and Residents' Association, addressing the Council in relation to the closure of the Woolwich Common Concierge Service.

In making her deputation Lucy Isiah stated that the Tenants and Residents Association was objecting to the closure of the Concierge Service which was introduced to address the high level of anti-social behaviour in the area and assist vulnerable residents to access Council Services. She stated that the Concierge Service was beneficial to residents, the Council and the local police; and that its costs were covered by achieving savings elsewhere, an example of reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour was quoted.

Ms Isiah questioned how the consultation was carried out by the Council. She told the Council that the Tenant and Residents Association had conducted their own consultation which showed that residents did not want the Concierge Service to be removed. She also questioned why no consultation had been undertaken with the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Lucy Isiah questioned why the Woolwich Common Estates, as an area of high unemployment, drug use and anti-social behaviour had not been offered regeneration and instead having services removed.

In response, Councillor Lekau, Cabinet Member for Housing and Anti-Poverty, stated that the Concierge Services, in some Council blocks, were being subsidised by all residents of the Borough. She continued that the Council needed to look at the cost of a range of services provided; their productivity; effectiveness; and value for money. She assured Ms Isiash, and the Council, that the Authority took the safety of all its residents seriously but that the Concierge Service was never intended to be an extension of the Police Service or permanent.

Councillor Lekau added that consultation letters were hand delivered to all flats and only 12% responded.

8 Public Questions

The Mayor advised the meeting that notice had been received of 30 written questions by members of the public. The questions and replies, together with the supplementary submissions made during the meeting are attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

9 Questions from Members

The Mayor advised the meeting that notice had been received of 24 written questions. The questions and replies, together with the supplementary questions made during the meeting, are attached as Appendix B to these minutes.

Under procedures for oral question, the Mayor invited questions to Members of the Cabinet for response, the full details of which can be viewed on the online meeting webcast.

Councillor Bird asked the Leader of the Council for an update on the Cinema in Eltham to which Councillor Hyland replied that a contract had now been signed with Vue Cinema and that positive progress was being made in relation to this development. All Members were invited to an upcoming event on Eltham High Street to mark the signing of the contract with Vue Cinema.

Councillor Hartley asked the Leader of the Council to look into the concerns of the Headteacher, and teachers, of St Joseph's School regarding the timing of the Council's decision to evict the travellers in Horn Link Way, Greenwich. Councillor Hyland, the Leader of the Council, responded that the action was timed so as not to disrupt the children's education and August was the month when, traditionally, the traveller community travelled and

children were not in school. It was stated that the decision to evict the travellers was only taken after a long period of negotiation and offers of alternative accommodation being refused.

In response to Councillor Clare's request that some of the money from the Low Emissions Neighbourhoods (LENs) be used to bring the Santander Cycles to the Borough the Leader of the Council, Councillor Hyland, stated that the funding for the LEN was for Greenwich West and Peninsula wards as stated in the bid. It was stated that it would cost the Council £2million to introduce Santander Cycles to the Borough.

10 Matters for early debate

The Mayor advised that no requests from the party whips for matters to be taken early had been received. However, as members of the public had requested to speak on Item 13, the Petition Responses report, this would be taken as the first item of business.

11 Statement of Accounts 2015/16

The Mayor advised that the Royal Borough's accounts, the Pension Fund accounts and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016 had been circulated on a Supplementary Agenda. Further that the accounts and the Auditor's Findings Report were considered by the Audit and Risk Management Panel and the Pensions Fund Investment and Administration Panel. Neither Panel had any further comments for the Council's consideration.

The Mayor invited Mr Dosset, Grant Thornton's Engagement Lead and external auditor, to introduce the Report

Mr Dosset was pleased to note that the Royal Borough of Greenwich had produced its financial statements at the end of May, demonstrating that the Authority had been well prepared for the impending changes including the requirement of financial statements to be submitted by July. Mr Dosset advised that the Council had produced a high quality statement of accounts and that no adjustments were required. He continued that as the Auditor, he proposed to give an Unqualified Opinion on the financial statements and an Unqualified Value for Money Conclusion on the Council's arrangements. It was stated that the opinion reflected how the Council was facing and managing the on-going fiscal challenges.

Members had no questions for the external auditor.

Councillor Hyland, Leader of the Council, moved reception of the report, thanking the external auditors, Grant Thornton and Mr Dosset and his team for their report and comments. The Leader stated that it was re-assuring that the independent audit had noted the Council's continued sound financial governance. Councillor Hyland thanked the Director of Finance and her Team for their excellent work in producing the accounts on time, particularly in light of the Council's recent workforce transformation programme.

Councillor Hyland was pleased to note that the Council was one of the few authorities in the Country already working to the Government's new target for the production of draft accounts by 31st May each year, due to be in place by 2018. As a result of these changes the Leader stated that the July meeting of the Council could be held a week earlier than usual.

Councillor Austen addressed the Council, as the Chair of the Pension Fund Investment and Administration Panel, reporting that the Panel had worked well with officers and was pleased with the outcome. He was pleased that the members of the Council's Pension Fund could be assured that the Pensions Fund was being prudently managed, administered and in a healthy state.

Councillor Hartley expressed his thanks, and that of the Conservative Group, to the Director of Finance and her team and the external auditor for their work on the Statement of Accounts. He advised that he understood that the accounts of ancillary or subsidiary companies of the Council were produced in line with their individual governance arrangements and that there was no obligation to publish them alongside the full accounts. Councillor Hartley requested that the accounts of these companies be published in future in conjunction with the Council's Statement so as to enable Members' scrutiny of all of the Council's financial interests.

The Leader of the Council formally closed the debate.

Unanimously Resolved -

1. That the Audit Findings Report (AFR); Royal Borough of Greenwich at appendix 1b to the report and Pension Fund at appendix 2b, be noted.
2. That it be noted that the Audit and Risk Management Panel and Pension Fund Investment and Administration had considered the Audit Findings report and had no comments for consideration by Council.

3. That the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016, at Appendix 1d, incorporating agreed amendments be approved.
4. That it be agreed that the Mayor sign and date the revised Statement of Accounts.

12 Treasury Management Outturn Report 2015/16

The Mayor advised that the report had been considered by the Audit and Risk Management Panel and Cabinet and that neither had any further comments for the Council's consideration.

Councillor Hyland, Leader of the Council, advised that the report covered the period before the EU referendum; and that the Council's approach to borrowing had been consistent over a number of years. Councillor Hyland confirmed that no new borrowing had been undertaken.

The Leader confirmed that the prudent management of the Council's resources continued to be at the forefront of its decision making. It was stated that regular monitoring reports were considered by the Cabinet and the Audit and Risk Management Panel and Councillor Hyland thanked the Members of the Panel for their work in scrutinising this complex area.

Unanimously Resolved -

That the Treasury Management Outturn Report for 2015/16 be agreed

13 Petition Responses

The Mayor advised that a member of the public had requested to speak on this report and, as such, it was taken as the first item of business. The Mayor invited Sian Stringer to address the Council with regard to the petition relating to mobile libraries.

Ms Stringer expressed her grave concern regarding the closure of the mobile library service despite the Council's own consultation indicating support for its retention. It was stated that whilst a new library had been built in Greenwich, this was a leisure centre, with a library in it and served the local and mobile population. Further, that despite assurances given as part of the consultation process, the mobile library service would not be closed until the enhanced home library service was in place, the service was due to close this Friday, with no alternative ready.

Ms Stringer expressed concern that alternative provision had not been made for residents, schools and nurseries that made use of the current service. The suggested proposals were also inadequate and that effectively the Authority was not providing a comprehensive library service and not meeting the needs of residents. It was stated that the proposed deposit / collection arrangements for schools and libraries were inadequate. Ms Stringer stated that the current outreach service, in the form of the mobile library service met the needs of the community and this should be developed and built upon.

In conclusion it was stated that it was felt that the Council had failed the Service; failed to promote the service or allowed staff to input in a meaningful way on how to improve or promote the service, and left it to deteriorate.

Ms Stringer was pleased that there would be no redundancies but staff had not been concerned about their jobs but about the provision of service to the children of the Borough and it was felt that the Council was letting them down. Mr Stringer urged the Council to reconsider its position on the future of the mobile library service.

In response, Councillor Scott-MacDonald, Cabinet Member for Creative Industries and Community Wellbeing thanked Ms Stringer for her address and advised that the Council was committed to delivering a high quality library service. It was stated that the Council had made substantial financial investment to its library services, across the Borough with positive results. Furthermore, the changes were being introduced following extensive consultation with the unions, library staff, service users and the public. Consequently, it was agreed that there was a need for the service to modernise as the numbers using the mobile service were in decline.

Councillor Scott-McDonald stated that she believed that the approach set out will improve the existing home delivery library service and the service provided to residents.

A member of the public made a vocal outburst from the Public Gallery and following warnings the Mayor asked the named individual to leave the meeting. The warnings were not heeded and the Mayor asked for the meeting to be adjourned to allow for the named member of the public to be removed from the Chamber and order to be restored.

At 20:25 the meeting was adjourned and reconvened at 20:40pm

Councillor Scott-MacDonald declined the Mayor's invitation to continue her response.

Councillor Hartley requested that his thanks to Councillor Smith for the response to the Petition relating to Fairy Hill Park and Southwood Park in New Eltham which addressed the residents' concerns be put on the record.

Resolved

That the action taken in response to petitions presented at recent meetings of the Council be noted.

- 14 Motion regarding community cohesion signed by Councillors Jackie, Smith, Matt Hartley, Denise Hyland, Tonia Ashikodi, Barbara Barwick, Geoff Brighty, Mandy Brinkhurst, Stephen Brain, Matt Clare, Angela Cornforth, Wynn Davies, Spencer Drury, Mark Elliott, John Fahy, Nuala Geary, Christine Grice, Mick Hayes, John Hills, Mark James, Mehboob Khan, Averil Lekau, Steve Offord, Maureen O'Mara, Paul Morrissey, Matthew Morrow, Cherry Parker and Miranda Williams**

In moving the motion, Councillor Jackie Smith, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Environment, stated that she had brought the motion forward as someone who had always stood up to racism. Councillor Smith recounted that the Borough had, sadly, seen a number of racist incidents in the 1980s and 90s, however, the Council, Police, faith and community groups and voluntary organisations working together with the local community had tackled this and reduced hate crimes in the Borough. Councillor Smith stated that one of the Borough's strengths was its diversity and that communities lived harmoniously together. It was stated that the recent spike in hate crime across the country was worrying and that every effort had to be made to ensure incidents did not occur in the Borough.

Councillor Smith noted that since the EU referendum, there had been a nationally reported increase in hate crime and, whilst it was too soon to tell if this was a trend, there was no time for complacency. The Mayor of London had spoken out on this issue and stated that the addressing of hate crime would be a priority for the Metropolitan Police Service.

Councillor Smith concluded by quoting murdered MP Jo Cox, "we have far more in common than that which divides us" and urged all the Members to support the Motion.

Councillor Hartley seconded the motion, thanking Councillor J Smith for the opportunity to work with her on the wording but regretting its necessity. He continued that the Council was speaking with one voice, that there was no room for racism, xenophobia or hate crime in the Borough. The Greenwich Together campaign was welcomed and seen as a necessary response to the reported increase in hate crime in the Borough.

Councillor Hartley stated that some bigoted people may have been emboldened by the outcome of the EU Referendum to use racist and xenophobic language and justify hate attacks. This was not acceptable and the majority of people who voted Leave were horrified that racist and xenophobic incidents had increased and they condemned them. Councillor Hartley stated that anyone using racist, xenophobic language or perpetrated hate crime should be condemned and prosecuted.

Councillor Hartley felt that Greenwich Together should also mean bringing the Borough back together after a divisive, on both sides, referendum campaign.

Councillor Hartley thanked Councillor O'Mara for organising an event in September 2016 for EU Citizens as a welcome step and one he hoped would reassure European Union citizens that they were valued residents of the Borough. He concluded that whoever we were, wherever we were from, we were one Borough in one nation and that this cross-party motion was a message to anyone who would have it otherwise.

Councillor Lloyd spoke on the proposed motion, citing a personal incident recently and this highlighted the importance of all working together to make the Borough a tolerant and safe place for all residents. He also praised the work of organisations such as Greenwich Inclusion Project (GrIP).

Councillor O'Mara also recounted a recent incident where she faced someone who feared that, as an EU citizen, she would no longer be welcome in the Borough or Country. Councillor O'Mara stated that she hoped that the event for EU Citizens in September would be but one small step in reassuring them that they were part of and wanted in the Borough.

Councillor J Smith closed the debate by noting that all the Members had spoken from the heart and all Borough residents should feel reassured of the Council's determination to promote community cohesion.

Unanimously Resolved

That this Council is committed to ensuring that everyone in the Royal Borough of Greenwich could feel safe and proud of who they were, regardless of their background

That this Council is committed to bringing together residents from all communities and all backgrounds, including through its #greenwichtogether campaign

That the Council unequivocally condemns all incidents of racism, xenophobia and hate crime in all its forms. Council reaffirms its commitment to supporting community cohesion in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, and working with its partner organisations and other agencies to ensure that anyone experiencing any form of hate crime receives the support they need.

15 Motion regarding the National Health Service signed by Councillors David Gardner, Denise Hyland, Don Austen, Mick Hayes, Mark James, Averil Lekau, Allan MacCarthy, Maureen O'Mara, Clare Morris, Cherry Parker and Jackie Smith

The Mayor advised that an amendment from the Conservative Group had been published and could be accessed on line as well as paper copies being available.

Councillor Gardner moved reception of the motion praising the hard work and dedication of health service professionals but commented that regardless there were issues that needed to be addressed. The Council was informed that the United Kingdom spent less as a percentage of its GDP on health and social than neighbouring European countries. The Government's proposal to invest in the NHS was welcomed but Councillor Gardner stated that this was not enough and also had to be seen in light of the on-going efficiency savings.

Councillor Gardner informed the Council that Public Health had been the subject of significant funding reductions and that savings were having an impact on the residents of the Borough and were short sighted. A number of recent controversial savings, including the closure of facilities and service reductions, agreed by the CCG were highlighted. In conclusion Councillor Gardner stated that he believed that there needed to be a pooling not fragmentation of resources; greater collaboration between the Health Service and social care; proper resourcing; and that the continuing cuts to public health provision needed to end as it was resulting in reduced and stretched

services which effected all walks of life, including those with learning disabilities and additional needs support.

Councillor Hyland, Leader of the Council, formally seconded the motion, reserving her right to speak.

Councillor Hartley moved the following amendment to the motion:

Delete the second and third paragraphs and **replace** them with the following paragraphs:

“This Council notes that despite the fact that the NHS in England is now receiving an increase in funding of £10 billion a year by 2020, in line with the NHS Five Year Forward View (an increase that has been frontloaded, with £6 billion set to be delivered by the end of 2016/17), increasing demand for health services and demographic pressures mean that many NHS organisations are struggling with deficit budgets.

“This is also true in our local context. Council notes that while the funding allocation for the Greenwich Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is increasing from £345.61 million last year, to £359.36 million this year (2016/17), to £403.84 million by 2020/21, increasing demand, demographic pressures and the fact that not enough savings were achieved by the CCG in 2015-16 mean that the CCG has been unable to set a balanced budget this year.

Delete the fifth paragraph and **replace** it with the following paragraph:

“This Council calls on the Government to continue to substantially increase spending on the NHS between now and 2020, in line with the NHS Five Year Forward View, as it committed to do in the November 2015 Spending Review. Furthermore, in the wake of the referendum on the UK’s EU membership, this Council calls upon the Government to prioritise increasing spending on the NHS – above and beyond the £10 billion a year already committed by 2020 – when considering how to spend the public funds saved from no longer paying into the EU budget, in order to help the NHS further as it deals with demographic pressures.

Add the following additional paragraphs at the end of the motion:

“In addition to calling on the Greenwich CCG to continue funding “The Source” until a new arrangement is secured, this Council believes more

should be done by all the relevant stakeholders to pro-actively find an alternative solution that would secure the future of the facility.

“This Council notes that the Greenwich CCG has now written to the seven Greenwich GPs within a mile’s radius from “The Source” to ask for expressions of interest in delivering an alternative solution, with a deadline of next Monday, 1st August. This Council calls on the Greenwich CCG to extend this deadline, and calls on the executive to pro-actively call a meeting of all surrounding GPs to explore alternative options. This Council further calls on the executive to consider how its other public health services could make redeployed to “The Source” to make an alternative solution financially viable, if necessary.”

In moving the amendment Councillor Hartley stated that, if agreed, the motion would now solely address issues relevant locally to the NHS and would be a motion that all Members could agree to. Councillor Hartley disputed a number of the political statements in the original motion, highlighting the rationale and benefits of the Health and Social Care Act; the additional funding that the Government had made available to the National Health Service; and that increasing demand and pressures on the Health Service were adding to the current difficulties. Further that additional funding for the NHS should be the top priority from any savings arising from leaving the European Union.

Councillor Hartley highlighted where the original motion and the proposed amendment were in accord and in particular he wished to acknowledge the dedication of NHS staff; and the pressures that were being faced despite the additional funding being made available. Councillor Hartley expressed his concern regarding the recent decisions of the Greenwich CCG and the impact that these had on local residents, in particular the closure of the Source and reduced funding for people with learning difficulties. The work undertaken by the Cabinet Member to save the Source was commended and Councillor Hartley requested Council agree the amendment and unite in support of local services.

Councillor Elliott seconded the proposed amendment stating that he felt that members agreed on more points than they disagreed on and the services to residents were what mattered. Members were informed of the likely impact of the closure of the Source on the community in Horn Park and the need for alternative provision to be identified. It was stated that time and creative solutions were required to ensure that services provided by the Source could continue.

Councillor Gardner did not accept the amendment.

Councillors Thorpe, MacCarthy, Hyland, M. James and Khan spoke in objection to the proposed amendment. In speaking against the amendment Members highlighted the impact that national funding decisions had on the provision of local services. It was stated that the reality of the NHS was that services were failing and that the improvements made during the last Labour Government were being lost. In order to protect services it was necessary for all to stand up for greater funding for the Borough and services for local residents.

In speaking against the amendment Members highlighted the negative impact of the Health and Social Care Act; the top down reorganisation of services; and the increased emphasis on the 'competitive market place'. Members also highlighted the problems caused by recent funding reductions in public health and the impact on local services and residents. The lack of Government and CCG consultation on the reductions was raised and it was stated that it was not feasible for the Council to keep bailing out public health.

In relation to the Source, Councillor James (M) informed the meeting of the history of the Source and the impact of the proposed withdrawal of funding would have on an already deprived community.

Councillor Kirby proposed given the lateness of the hour that the Council move to the vote on the amendment. The Mayor put this to the vote and it was agreed to move to the vote on the amendment. The amendment was lost.

In relation to the motion Councillor Hartley stated that he was disappointed that it was not possible to have cross party agreement. In relation to other comments made it was stated that additional funding had been made available to the NHS and that the amount was greater than promised by the Labour Party. Councillor Hartley stated that all members had a personal stake in the health service and its continuing improvement. In conclusion he stated that he would like to work on a cross party basis to help save the Source.

The matter was put to the vote.

Resolved:

That the Royal Borough of Greenwich Council reiterates its emphatic support for the National Health Service, the best in the world, in promoting the wellbeing and health of our citizens, treating the sick, injured and those

suffering long-term conditions with high quality and compassionate treatment and care, free to all at the point of use. The Council salutes the dedication and professionalism of the thousands of clinicians, care and support staff who devoted themselves to the users of the NHS and social care services in the Borough.

However, this Council is increasingly concerned at the strains on the local NHS and care services caused by increased demand, tighter funding and exacerbated by the fragmentation and adversarial commissioner-provider relationships following the 2012 Health and Social Care Act. The Council believes it is simply unacceptable for its residents to be waiting on hospital trolleys in corridors for treatment or for weeks for a GP appointment.

This Council supports the NHS England view that emphasis must be moved from treating to preventing illness, promoting healthy living and helping to prevent and then manage long term conditions so people could live as normal and active life as possible. However, the Government had spectacularly failed to support Public Health, cutting a devastating £2m from the Royal Borough of Greenwich budget this financial year with more cuts to follow. Further, the Greenwich Care Commissioning Group (CCG) has stopped £1.1m of funding to the Royal Borough's award winning public health programmes.

This Council is concerned, both at the Greenwich CCG financial position with a £15.4m shortfall in this financial year and the manner of some of their decisions to stop certain funding including the excellent nurse-led facility in Horn Park "The Source", public health projects and £950,000 for the most vulnerable people with learning disabilities. At the same time, the Council notes the continued progress being made in co-ordinated care supporting people with seamless support on leaving hospital, with continued low delayed discharges and reducing re-admissions.

This Council calls upon the Government to substantially increase spending on the NHS and to ensure greater equity of funding in primary and secondary care across London, to reverse the public health cuts and to continue the process of devolution of healthcare to be integrated with social care within a local democratically accountable framework, and to replace the focus on competition with one on a duty to collaborate. Further, the Council calls upon the Government to deliver on the promise of the Leave Campaign for an extra £350m a week for the NHS, equivalent to a £76m annual boost for Greenwich NHS.

Further, this Council calls upon the Greenwich Health and Wellbeing Board to continue the excellent promotion of our Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the development of the Greenwich Co-ordinated Care programme as part of a roadmap to integration, to ensure a collaborative approach to resourcing and commissioning, to establish a Greenwich Healthcare Economy strategy to ensure the Royal Borough had the right clinical and support professionals to meet future needs, and calls upon the Greenwich CCG to continue funding “The Source” until a new arrangement was secured and to reconsider its unilateral cut supporting the MCCH learning disabilities contract until new arrangements were agreed.

16 Motion regarding webcasting signed by Councillors Matt Hartley, Mark Elliott, Geoff Brighty, Mandy Brinkhurst, Matt Clare, Spencer Drury, Nuala Geary and John Hills

The Mayor advised that an amendment from the Labour Group had been published and could be accessed on line as well as paper copies being available.

Councillor Hartley moved the following motion:

‘Council welcomes the introduction of live and recorded web streaming of Full Council meetings, with a total of 524 users having watched meetings online in the programme’s first six months.

Council further notes that the cabling facilities exist to stream meetings in Town Hall meeting rooms where other committees of Council take place.

Council believes in the principle of transparency in the conduct of its work, including in relation to matters that are often of particular and topical interest to residents.

Council therefore requests that the executive instructs officers to develop plans to extend live and recorded web streaming of meetings of the Planning Board and Highways Committee, as a further step in opening up our local democracy to public access and scrutiny.’

In moving the motion Councillor Hartley advised that there had been a positive response to the webcasting of the Council Meetings and that the motion sought to expand the service to other meetings. Councillor Brighty seconded the motion, reserving the right to speak.

Councillor Hyland moved an amendment and this was accepted by Councillor Hartley. The motion as amended was to put to the vote and it was

Resolved unanimously

That Council welcomes the introduction of live and recorded web streaming of Full Council meetings, with a total of 524 users having watched meetings online in the programme's first six months.

That the Council commits to monitoring the webcasting of full Council meetings with a view to looking at extending webcasting to other meetings to which the public and press are invited, when resources become available, and it is technically possible and practical to do so in order to ensure that the Council is as accessible, open and transparent in its business, as it can be.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Chair