ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH 2019 AT 5.30 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Members:
Councillors Danny Thorpe (Chair), David Gardner (Vice-Chair), Chris Kirby,
Averil Lekau, Denise Scott-McDonald and Miranda Williams

Under Standing Orders

Officers
Chief Executive, Head of Legal Services, Director of Housing and Safer
Communities, Director of Communities and Environment, Director of
Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills, Senior Assistant Director Inclusion, Learning
and Achievement (Children's Services), Assistant Director Corporate Finance &
Deputy s151 Officer (Finance), Senior Assistant Director Partnership and
Operations, interim Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care and Corporate
Governance Officer.

Item
No.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillors Christine
Grice, Denise Hyland and Sizwe James.

2 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.
3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald declared a personal interest in item 5 “Short Breaks Grant Funded Activities 2019 – 2021” as she was or had previously been active with 2 of the organisations recommended for grant funding (AHoy Centre and Charlton Athletic Community Trust).

Resolved -

That the list of Councillors’ Membership, as Council appointed representatives, on outside bodies, joint committees and School Governing bodies be noted.

That it be noted that Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald declared a personal interest in Item 5 - Short Breaks Grant Funded Activities 2019.

4 Minutes

Resolved -

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 20 February 2019 & 26 February 2019 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

5 Short Breaks Grant Funded Activities 2019 - 2021

Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald left the room for the duration of this item.

The report was presented by the Senior Assistant Director Inclusion, Learning and Achievement (Children’s Services) who advised Members that a representation had been received from Greenwich Toy and Leisure Library (GTLL), one of the organisations that had been unsuccessful, raising concerns around engagement and social value. She informed Members that GTLL had completed their own parent/carer survey which was separate from the consultation process and that each organisation was given a social value score with GTLL scoring lower than others.
In addressing the meeting, Councillor Gardner, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Schools stated that if approved the new short breaks offer would provide 500+ more places.

Cabinet

Resolved –

That the funding recommendations for the 2019 – 2021 Short Breaks for Disabled Children Grant scheme, totalling £662,633, as detailed in paragraph 3.1, be agreed.

6 Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

The report was presented by the interim Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care.

Cabinet

Resolved -

That the legal requirement for the Royal Borough of Greenwich to replace the Greenwich Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB) with new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements be noted.

That it be agreed to approve the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements outlined in this paper for publication no later than 31st March 2019.

That it be agreed to delegate responsibility and authority for ensuring full participation with the new Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements to the Director of Children’s Services.

That it be recommended that the geographical footprint for the new arrangements should be based on local authority boundaries. However, in line with work undertaken as part of the DfE Early Adopter Programme Greenwich would be prepared to align some processes, procedures and priorities with other Multi Agency Safeguarding Partnerships if it promotes more effective use of resources and a shared approach to learning and development leading to better outcomes for children and young people.
That it be recommended that the Independent Chair of the Greenwich Safeguarding Children Board be asked to undertake the role of Independent Scrutineer and that the Partnership Group be chaired by one of the lead representatives from the statutory safeguarding partners in yearly rotation.

That it be recommended that the funding from each of the partners and relevant agencies should remain the same in 2019/20 with a review in 2020/21.

That it be recommended that a tri borough (Greenwich, Lewisham and Bexley) Child Death Review Panel be agreed and become operational by 29th September 2019.

7 Contract Standing Orders - Exemptions / Variations

The report was presented by the Assistant Director Corporate Finance & Deputy s151 Officer (Finance).

Cabinet

Resolved -

That the summary of Exemptions to Contract Standing Orders reported for the period 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018, detailed in Appendix I be noted.

That the summary of Variations under Contract Standing Orders reported for the period 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018, detailed in Appendix II.

That the requirement to refer the report to Overview and Scrutiny be noted.

8 Woolwich Estates Regeneration Scheme: Connaught Phases 2 and 3 Viability Approval Via Deed of Variation, Appropriation and Transfer of Land

The report was presented by the Director Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills.

Cabinet

Resolved –
That the Connaught Phases 2 and 3 Viability Test by way of a Deed of Variation (Appendix 1), which delays the Council's receipt of Phases 2 and 3 project and vacant possession costs (6.4), be agreed and authorise the Head of Legal Services to execute (sign and/or seal) the necessary legal documents. The Deed of Variation will be entered into to once the proposed appropriation for planning purposes has occurred.

That it be agreed to grant a 300 year lease of the land at the former Connaught Estate, SE18, hatched red on the plan and attached as Appendix 2 (the “Phases 2 & 3 Land”) from the Housing Revenue Account to Lovell Partnerships Ltd.

That it be agreed to appropriate the Phases 2 & 3 Land at the former Connaught Estate, after the 300 year lease at 1.2 has been granted, from its present housing purpose to planning purposes pursuant to Section 122 Local Government Act 1972 and subject to the powers provided by Section 203 Housing & Planning Act 2016 for the reasons set out in Section 8 of this report.

That the freehold transfer of the same land pursuant to the Development Agreement (DA) between the Council and Lovell Partnerships Ltd, which was signed in July 2013 subject to the powers provided by Section 233 Town & Country Planning Act 1990, be agreed.

That it be noted the Deed of Variation of the 8th September 2016 entered into by the Council, Lovell and Morgan Sindall contains an indemnity in the Council’s favour for any claims or demands, including for compensation, as a result of rights being infringed where appropriation for planning purposes has taken place.

That it be agreed to treat the information in Appendix 1, 3, 4 and 5 as exempt under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, point 3, “information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)”.

That it be agreed that the exempt information, presented in this report is not subsequently released to the press or public.

That it be noted that the decisions being sought in this report will allow the Council to fulfil its obligations under the Development Agreement, for Connaught Phases 2 & 3.
That it be noted that under the current scheme of delegation the Leader approves appropriations, in this case, the Leader has agreed to a variation to the scheme of delegation to enable Cabinet to make the appropriation decision.

9 Cabinet Performance Report - High Level Objectives

The report was presented by the Director of Communities and Engagement.

Cabinet

Resolved –

That the appendices to this report which provide an overview of the Council’s performance across its high-level objectives be noted.

10 Social Mobility Delivery Plan

The report was presented by the Director of Communities and Engagement.

Cabinet

Resolved –

That the Social Mobility Delivery Plan and its recommendations as listed at 4.5.

That the creation of the Social Mobility Board and its terms of reference as referred to in 4.10 and set out in Appendix C be agreed.

That it be noted that out of 26 recommendations, only 5 have a direct cost associated with them and that funding has been secured for the first year.

That it be agreed that officers will investigate the potential funding routes for the 2 options which have unfunded cost implications for future years (Recommendations 10 and 18), as set out in Section 4.8.
11 Communities and Local Government Committee Report on the Effectiveness of Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The report was presented by the Director of Communities and Environment.

In addressing the meeting, Councillor Gardner, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Schools advised that recommendation 1.4 of the report –

“To agree the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that Scrutiny should report directly to Full Council by presenting update reports from each panel on a rotational basis”

was based on the House of Commons Select Committee recommendation which also continued that an executive response should be reported to a subsequent Council within 2 months.

In response the Director Communities and Environment stated generally The executive responses to scrutiny updates would be presented at Cabinet.

Cabinet

Resolved –

That the Government response to the Communities and Local Government Committee report recommendations. (Appendix B) be noted.

That it be noted that new guidelines on Scrutiny were due to be published by Government in November 2018 but these are still awaited.

That the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that Scrutiny should report directly to Full Council by presenting update reports from each panel on a rotational basis be agreed.

12 Options to amend charging for adult social care services

The report was presented by the Senior Assistant Director Partnerships and Operations.
Cabinet

**Resolved -**

That the options for changes to the charging policy in Greenwich for Adult social care services be noted. That it be agreed to take forward a consultation process with borough citizens, with a focus on those who are current or future users of adult social care services, with regard proposed changes to the Adult Social Care Charging Policy.

The meeting closed at 5.42 pm

___________________________
Chair