

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Council**

**Date:** Tuesday, 15 December 2020

**Time:** 19:00

**Venue:** Virtual Meeting

### **Attendees:**

Councillor Munir Ahmed, Councillor Shahbaz Ahmed, Councillor Jasbir Anand, Councillor Praveen Anand, Councillor Sitarah Anjum, Councillor Mohammad Aslam, Councillor Jon Ball, Councillor Julian Bell, Councillor Josh Blacker, Councillor Fay Block, Councillor Linda Burke, Councillor Theresa Byrne, Councillor Joanna Camadoo-Rothwell, Councillor Jaskiran Chohan, Councillor Paul Conlan, Councillor Deirdre Costigan, Councillor Daniel Crawford, Councillor Kate Crawford, Councillor Joanna Dabrowska, Councillor Karanvir Dhadwal, Councillor Tejinder Dhami, Councillor Ranjit Dheer, Councillor Stephen Donnelly, Councillor Paul Driscoll, Councillor Yoel Gordon, Councillor Abdullah Gulaid, Councillor Amarjit Jammu, Councillor Yvonne Johnson, Councillor Harbhajan Kaur-Dheer, Councillor Mrs Seema Kumar, Councillor Carlo Lusuardi, Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, Councillor Tariq Mahmood, Councillor Gary Malcolm, Councillor Gurmit Mann, Councillor Rajinder Mann, Councillor Shital Manro, Councillor Dee Martin, Councillor Peter Mason, Councillor Mohinder Midha, Councillor David Millican, Councillor Karam Mohan, Councillor Timothy Murtagh, Councillor Swaran Padda, Councillor Binda Rai, Councillor Aysha Raza, Councillor Miriam Rice, Councillor Sarah Rooney, Councillor Mik Sabiers, Councillor Kamaldeep Sahota, Councillor Charan Sharma, Councillor Gareth Shaw, Councillor Gregory Stafford, Councillor Andrew Steed, Councillor Chris Summers, Councillor Nigel Sumner, Councillor Hitesh Tailor, Councillor Lauren Wall, Councillor Ray Wall, Councillor Simon Woodroffe, Councillor Anthony Young

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Busuttil, Cox and Nagpal.

It was noted that Councillors Dhindsa and Kelly had experienced technical issues that prevented them from joining the meeting.

### **2 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Bell declared that he was a member of the Transport for London Board, but that he had ensured he didn't take part in any decision making that affected funding for London Boroughs.

### 3 **Matters to be Considered in Private**

**Resolved:** That all items be considered in public, as proposed.

### 4 **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor announced the deaths of former Councillors Paul Woodgate and Gurcharan Singh, as well as past Mayoress Rosemarie Mallam and Council observed a minute's silence.

### 5 **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2020**

**Resolved:** That, with the inclusion of Councillor Steed's vote in favour of the motion of no confidence in the Leader of the Council, the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2020 be agreed as a correct record of proceedings.

### 6 **Minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2020**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2020 be agreed as a correct record of proceedings.

### 7 **Treasury Management Update (Broadway Living RP) 2020-21**

Councillor Sabiers proposed, and Councillor Sabiers seconded, the recommendations from the Treasury Management Update (Broadway Living RP) 2020-21 report.

Councillors Young, Ball, Tailor and Stafford debated the contents of the report and the recommendations.

**Resolved:**

That Council

1. Noted the existing funding allocation within the Councils General Fund capital programme of £149.212 million for the Broadway Living Capital Loans programme.
2. Noted Cabinet approval at its meeting on 10 November 2020 to incept a further £250.788 million funding allocation into the Councils General Fund capital programme for the Broadway Living RP Capital Loans programme. Providing an overall £400 million loan facility, consistent with the BLRP Business Plan, to be funded

from prudential borrowing, with all the associated revenue costs being met from the income received from BLRP.

3. Noted the existing 2020/21 budget allocation within the Councils General Fund capital programme of £4.875 million to ensure that the delivery of the GLA programme can be progressed.
4. Noted Cabinet approval at its meeting on 10 November 2020 to incept a further £31.800 million budget allocation into the Councils General Fund capital programme, providing an overall £36.675 million budget allocation. To cover the pre-transfer costs of sites from the Council to BLRP and the re-provision of existing Council services. To be funded initially from prudential borrowing, with the associated interest costs being recovered from the overall interest receipts flowing back from BLRP to the Council and the capital costs recovered from capital receipts received upon the transfer of sites from the Council to BLRP.
5. Approved the amendments necessary to the Treasury Management Strategy and relevant Prudential Indicators to reflect the above capital commitments.
6. Noted the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151) will implement the revisions to the Treasury Management Strategy under existing officer delegated powers.

## 8 **Petitions from Members of the Public**

There were no petitions from members of the public.

## 9 **Petitions from Members of the Council**

There were no petitions from members of the Council.

## 10 **Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no petitions from members of the public.

## 11 **Questions from Members of the Council**

Councillor Malcolm asked Councillor J Anand:

What does the portfolio holder say when lots of residents from numerous streets in Southfield are angry that their streets are leaf-ridden and commonly see fly tipped items left uncollected for such a long time given that GEL have now been in operation for many months?

Councillor J Anand responded:

We know the Leafing programme can be challenging to deliver and additional resources are allocated as necessary, including Southfield which is currently an area of focus.

We have seen an increase in the number of volunteers to help with leaf sweeping this year helping to reduced the piles of leaves to a minimum. Of the total of 160 requests, 4 requests have been received from Southfields.

Alongside all areas in the borough by the middle of January all Southfields roads will receive their final leaf clearance sweeps.

All reported Fly tips are aimed to be cleared within SLA (next working day) GEL have received 47 reported fly tips in Southfields since 01/11/20 – 99% of which were cleared within SLA – I'm sure councillor Malcolm would agree that's hardly a bad result.

I'd ask councillors to encourage residents to report issues, as councillor Malcolm's description of Southfield doesn't match our numbers.

Councillor Millican asked Councillor J Anand:

Which are the five new LTN areas you have applied for?

Councillor J Anand responded:

The Council has confirmed to TfL that we'd like to consult on three schemes: Hamilton Road, Creffield Road North, Creffield Road South.

Nothing will be implemented before consultation as the government has not given us such a tight deadline to implement schemes this time. I'm pleased that we can do the consultation we would have done the first time around, if it had been up to us.

Councillor Summers asked Councillor Johnson:

Would the portfolio holder give us more information about the council's new purpose built respite centre for children with special needs in Northolt?

Councillor Johnson responded:

The Haydock Short Breaks Service for Children and Young People with Disabilities provides accommodation-based short breaks for children and young people (aged 9 to 18) with disabilities. This is a diverse group of people, and the support they need will be person-centred and tailored to their needs, strengths, interests and in some cases, the risks they present to themselves and others. The service offer both overnight and day respite including care and accommodation for children with physical disabilities; care and accommodation for children with sensory impairment; and care and accommodation for children with learning disabilities.

Ealing Council dedicated £1.5M of its own capital funding and secured additional Capital Funding from NHS England to re-develop the site, design and build the new Centre. Significant lobbying had taken place by the Heller House parent/Carer group (after this service closed in July 2016) to ensure that the respite service continued.

The service will be delivered from the newly built premises in Northolt and comprises of 6 bedrooms over two floors, and a communal space in a modern new build environment in secure grounds. Considerable work has taken place to ensure the design represents the best possible use of resources and space to produce a state of the art disability friendly environment.

Our service provider Action for Children is a national provider well experienced to deliver person-centred respite care to children and young people with a range of needs. The service gained Ofsted registration on 28th August 2020.

The Contract Term is initially for 10 years with an option to extend for a further 5 years. The service currently offers up to 900 bed nights per annum. There will be the provision for additional flexible individual support hours on top of the core contracted bed nights if needed. These will be agreed prior to each person's placement. I'm delighted to say that you can watch a video tour of the new facilities on Youtube, and I can circulate the link to all councillors if that is of interest.

Councillor Ball asked Councillor Bell:

What lessons has the Leader learnt from residents' reaction to the LTN rollout that he will apply to subsequent LTN schemes?

Councillor Bell responded:

In tranche 1, the Council followed Government guidelines on implementing COVID emergency schemes which, of course, included LTNs. The guidelines stated that schemes had to be implemented quickly to ensure that the benefits could be felt before lockdown eased and the predicted traffic increases took place. For tranche 2, the Government has finally revised its guidelines, and this has given us longer to implement schemes do the consultation we would have liked to do in the first place.

As my colleague Cllr Anand made clear in her answer to question 3 – we would have wanted to do a consultation before implementation, but that wasn't a possibility.

As you are aware from Cabinet, the decision was made to replace the drop down bollards with cameras, making it easier for emergency services to navigate and reassuring residents about response times, plus the blue badge exemption will mean that those with a mobility impairment can drive through any road closures in their home LTNs.

All the LTNs will continue to be monitored and if further changes are necessary, then the Council will take these into account.

Councillor Rice asked Councillor Bell:

Could the Leader update us on what preparations the council is making for Brexit and how we are supporting EU citizens in Ealing?

Councillor Bell responded:

I'd like to start by making clear that Ealing didn't vote for Brexit. We're proud to have a diverse community from all over the world, including thousands of EU citizens who have made Ealing their home.

It's clear to me that Brexit will damage our economy and would allow the Tories to scrap basic things like rights at work and food standards.

Our council has worked hard to raise awareness amongst EU citizens in Ealing of the need to apply for Settled Status. We've used our own communications channels, drop in sessions and worked with partners including Ealing & Hounslow CVS.

I'm proud to say that campaign has been successful with over 76,000 applications made from Ealing, the third highest in London and fourth highest in the country.

But the work continues, and we'll be continuing to promote the need to register ahead of the deadline in June 2021 to ensure that EU citizens who have made their home in Ealing are able to stay here.

The council has established a Brexit Preparedness Group which has met regularly to review the latest position and ensure the council is as prepared as possible given the uncertainty about whether a trade deal will be agreed with the EU and the ongoing challenge of the COVID 19 pandemic. Key short term risks identified relate to potential disruption or prices rises impacting on more disadvantaged residents, additional capacity demands on export businesses and regulatory services, and increased costs for suppliers including adult social care. I am confident that the council has taken the preparatory action to put in place contingency measures that we can at this stage although some risks are not within the council's ability to fully mitigate. It is also important to note that based on advice received to date it is likely that there may be some disruption regardless of whether a deal is agreed or not due to the relatively short time that businesses will have to adapt to new arrangements.

In short, we're doing everything we can to support Ealing residents through what could very well be a disastrous Tory Brexit.

Councillor Young asked Councillor J Anand:

What arrangements are being made to inform blue badge holders that they can register exemption from their local LTN restrictions?

Councillor J Anand responded:

The Council has the names and addresses of all blue badge holders in the Borough, and we wrote to all blue badge holders in LTN's about enforcement commencing on the 7th December, because we don't want anyone to be fined. As soon as the revised ETO is in place I'm pleased to say that blue badge holders will be exempt from fines in their home LTN.

When we introduce the scheme we will write to blue badge holders living in low traffic neighbourhoods to explain the exemption scheme and how to register vehicles.

There will be further information about the scheme on the council's website and further awareness raising will be done using council communications channels.

Unfortunately as Cllr Young knows, his party have called in the interim assessment paper and we now can't implement exemptions for blue badge holders until January at the earliest.

Councillor Jammu asked Councillor Rai:

Can the portfolio holder give us an update on the new Covid-19 vaccination?

Councillor Rai responded:

Firstly I'd like to briefly welcome the motion not for debate tonight from the Tories, which is something I never thought I'd say. We're delighted that the UK has managed to be the first country to roll out the vaccine and will of course do what we can to support it. This is a welcome change from lagging behind on testing and providing such confusing advice over the last few months. I hope the government has started listening to the Labour Party and got their act together.

The NHS is leading on rolling out the covid vaccination programme, with support from the council on sites, communications, community engagement and recruitment of staff. A small number of sites run by primary care are starting to provide some vaccinations in North West London, using the Pfizer vaccine. We are waiting for final confirmation on the opening of a site within Ealing, which will hopefully be before Christmas. A further 3-4 sites in Ealing will be opening in a later phase of the rollout. Each site will be able to initially vaccinate almost 1,000 residents, who will then require a second dose 21 days later. In the first phase, the NHS will primarily be inviting residents who are over 80 and living in their own homes. We are waiting for confirmation from government about when care home staff and residents may be able to receive vaccinations, and the Council is ready to support this as soon as an announcement is made.

As the programme is rolled out, residents will be invited by their GP practices for vaccination. I would urge residents not to contact their GP practices about this because everyone eligible will be contacted individually. It's been a very difficult year for so many of us, and I hope that this is the beginning of a return to normality. However, we can't get complacent now, following the rules is more important than ever. The end is in sight, and we need to hold on and do our bit.

## Opposition Motion for Debate

It was moved by Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Young that:

This council notes that:

1. On all the policy areas that matter to Londoners: crime, housing, and transport, regrettably, Mayor Sadiq Khan, has been an abject failure. These areas especially Crossrail, which were meeting or exceeding their targets, are now severely delayed (4 years for Crossrail).
2. Mayor Khan's disastrous financial mismanagement has now plunged London into a financial crisis, requiring Government bailouts for TfL, even though most of those failures came before COVID-19 was even an issue.
3. Mayor Khan has tried to distract from his failures by blaming Brexit, the Conservative government, and US President Donald Trump for London's problems.
4. Londoners will only get the services they need, with a Mayor, like Shaun Bailey, who will be fiscally responsible, work for all Londoners, and more importantly, be accountable to ordinary Londoners, and not just the Trade Unions.

Therefore, this Council condemns Mayor of London Sadiq Khan for failing to comprehensively listen to residents' and business during the current crisis and for his manifold failures prior to the outbreak.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Steed and seconded by Councillor Malcolm.

Councillors Costigan, Kumar, Blacker, Block, Camadoo-Rothwell, Shaw and Donnelly responded to the motion.

Councillor Steed summed up the amendment and Councillor Stafford summed up the motion.

A vote was taken and the amendment fell.

A vote was taken and the motion fell.

## Other Motions for Debate

Councillor Mahfouz moved, and Councillor J Anand seconded, the majority group's motion for debate. Councillors Young, Bell, Ball, Millican, Rooney, Sumner, Driscoll, Stafford, Johnson and Sabiers responded to the motion. Councillors Mahfouz summed up the motion.

**Resolved:** That this Council notes:

- Covid-19 has cost Ealing £72m.
- Local government has stepped in as the fourth emergency service to support the most vulnerable in our communities during the Covid-19 crisis.
- Councils asked Rishi Sunak to keep his promise to support them to do 'whatever it takes' to tackle Covid-19 – but his Spending Review hasn't delivered.
- The Spending Review did not include additional funding for public health, despite the stark health inequalities exposed by COVID-19.
- Public sector staff who have worked throughout the Covid-19 pandemic to keep us safe will be subject to a pay freeze.
- The social care crisis has been caused by Tory government failure to reform and adequately fund social care, and demand has increased with Covid-19.
- Additional social care funding is a sticking plaster - the government has yet again failed to put a sustainable long term adult social care funding solution in place.
- The Tory government has once again announced inadequate funding that depends on councils raising council tax to run essential services.
- Local authorities have already suffered a decade of Tory austerity. Ealing has lost 64p in every pound, more than the national average.

This Council resolves:

- To continue to campaign for the government to pay their bill and replace the funding this council has lost in responding to Covid-19.
- To write to the chancellor to express our disappointment in the Spending Review and call for the government to keep its promise and refund councils for the cost of responding to the Covid-19 crisis.

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## **Motions not for Debate**

### Coronavirus Vaccine

**Resolved:** That

This Council notes with great sympathy that as of 30th November, 1.5 million people around the world, including 441 in Ealing have died so far from COVID-19.

This Council, therefore, welcomes the news that the UK has become the first country in the world to approve the Pfizer/BioNTech coronavirus vaccine, paving the way for mass vaccination, which will hopefully prevent further deaths and enable a return to “normal” life.

This Council pledges to support the Government in their efforts to help deliver the vaccine to the priority list, which puts residents in care homes for older adults and their carers at the top of the list, followed by all those age 80 and over and frontline health and social care workers.

This Council resolves to communicate, including via its social media, to promote a greater uptake of the vaccine by residents in Ealing borough and to challenge anti-vaccine sentiments.

### End the Hostile Environment

**Resolved:** That

This Council notes:

- The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has found that the Home Office ignored equality law in treatment of the Windrush generation under the hostile environment.
- The hostile environment has devastated families and communities, making Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people feel unwelcome in our country.

- The impact of Go Home vans being driven around diverse communities.
- The prime minister has called women wearing the niqab letterboxes, and a Tory Lord recently referred to the Vice President Elect of the United States as “the Indian”.
- The no recourse to public funds condition has caused an unacceptable level of suffering, and made some of the most vulnerable in society too scared to access help and support.
- We are proud that Ealing is one of the most diverse communities in the country and that our borough has been enriched by immigration from all over the world.

This Council believes:

- The Tory government’s decision to deliberately foster a ‘hostile environment’ was a disgraceful approach to immigration and has no place in a diverse country like the UK.
- No one should feel unwelcome or unsafe because of the colour of their skin.
- Immigration has had a positive impact on our borough and our country.
- The Tory government needs to urgently re-examine their approach to immigration policy, and the inflammatory language used to present it.

This Council resolves:

- To always proudly celebrate our diverse community and the contribution of residents from all over the world to our borough.
- To continue to campaign for the government to grant rough sleepers with no recourse to public funds the status of Covid19 refugees, so they can receive the help and support they need.

- To write to the home secretary calling on the government to scrap and apologise for the hostile environment policy.

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## **OPDC – Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions**

**Resolved:** That Full Council

1. Noted and accepted the revised Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions agreed by OPDC in June 2020 (Appendix 1)
2. Authorised the Director of Growth and Sustainability to accept future revised OPDC Schemes of Delegations following consultation with the Portfolio holder for Housing, Planning and Transformation.
3. Noted and agreed that the Council will continue to exercise the planning delegations in accordance with the existing Council delegations.

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## **Dockless Cycle Hire – Proposed Byelaws**

**Resolved:** That full Council

1. Agreed to the making of a pan-London Byelaw that would regulate dockless cycle hire schemes by, amongst other things, compelling dockless operators to use designated parking spaces and to prohibit cycles being left anywhere other than as stipulated by boroughs.
2. Agreed to the delegation of the Council's byelaw making powers to London Council's Transport and Environment Committee and that they authorise the signed declaration in Appendix 2 by the then Executive Director of Place, on its behalf.

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## **Treasury Management Outturn 2019-20**

**Resolved:** That full Council

1. Noted the Treasury Management activities and performance against targets for the period to 31 March 2020.

2. Noted the Council's investment balance of £191.800m as at 31 March 2020 of which £161,000m was invested in other Local Authorities (set out in Appendix 1).
3. Noted the Prudential Indicators outturn for 2019/20. These have all be maintained within the limits set by full Council in February 2019 (set out in Appendix 2).

## 18 **Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies**

**Resolved:** That the following appointments to Committees and other bodies are agreed:

1. Councillor Donnelly to replace Councillor Dhindsa on Scrutiny Review Panel 1.
2. Councillor Camadoo-Rothwell to replace Councillor Rai on Ealing Racial Equality Council.
3. Councillor Block to be appointed to London Road Safety Council.
4. Councillor Sabiers to replace Councillor Mason on the Local Development Plan Advisory Committee and Housing Delivery Cabinet Committee.

## 19 **Urgent key decisions exempted from call-in**

**Resolved:** That the urgent key decisions exempted from call-in be noted.

## 20 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on 23 February 2021.

## 21 **Duration of Meeting**

7.02 pm to 10.04 pm