

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST MINUTES OF THE CABINET

12 September 2023 at Time Not Specified

PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Grace Williams	Leader of the Council
Cabinet Members:	Councillor Clyde Loakes	Deputy Leader (Climate and Air Quality)
	Councillor Naheed Asghar	Portfolio Lead Member - Health and Wellbeing
	Councillor Paul Douglas	Portfolio Lead Member - Finance and Resources
	Councillor Kizzy Gardiner	Portfolio Lead Member - Children and Young People
	Councillor Ahsan Khan	Deputy Leader (Housing and Regeneration)
	Councillor Khevyn Limbajee	Portfolio Lead Member - Community Safety
	Councillor Louise Mitchell	Portfolio Lead Member - Adults
	Councillor Elizabeth Baptiste	Cabinet Commissioner - Renters
	Councillor Sharon Waldron	Cabinet Commissioner - Housing Transformation

(Cabinet Commissioners are appointed by the Leader to assist Cabinet in leading engagement with our community on four key priorities for the Council and to support our borough to recover from the pandemic. These Councillors are not Members of the Cabinet and do not have any voting rights nor decision-making powers.)

Officers in Attendance:

Ian Buckle	Head of Electoral and Democratic Services
Anthony Jackson	Democratic Services Officer
Debbie Porter	Strategic Director, Environment and Neighbourhoods
Rob Manning	Strategic Director, Resources
Darren McAughtrie	Corporate Director – Adult Care & Quality Standards
Kim Travis	Deputy Monitoring Officer

26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Vicky Ashworth, Catherine Deakin and Rosalind Doré.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

28. MINUTES OF CABINET

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 13 July 2023, were approved as a correct record.

29. FINANCIAL MONITORING: MONTH 4 (JULY)

Councillor Douglas introduced the report.

The Leader thanked all officers involved in producing the report.

Decision

Cabinet:

- (1) approved the continued membership to the Eight Authority Business Pool for 2024/25;
- (2) approved funding of £0.116m for Business Manager and Executive Assistant supporting the new Neighbourhoods and Environment directorate from contingency; and
- (3) approved a review of all Sales, fees and charges for 2024/25 to ensure; that there is full recovery of all costs of delivery, any impact on service budgets is minimised, they are consistent with competitors and are aligned to Council's priorities.

30. PROCUREMENT OF CONTRACT FOR THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCE SERVICES

Councillor Douglas introduced the report.

Decision

Cabinet:

- (1) approved the procurement and tender process for the Council's insurance services for the period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2029; and
- (2) delegated the award of contract(s) to the successful provider(s) to the Strategic Director of Resources.

31. ENERGY UPGRADE LOAN

Councillor Loakes introduced the report and, in doing so, stated that at the beginning of summer 2023, officers wrote to approximately two thousand households

promoting solar panels and their benefits and confirmed that the Council was receiving increased interest. He added that the Council had signed up to Eco 4 national energy providers to support struggling households such as those on benefits by improving their energy efficiency. Councillor Loakes went on to say that he hoped the proposals in the report would go some way to improve energy efficiency in their homes and reduce their carbon footprint. He gave thanks to Luke Ravenscroft – Director, Climate Emergency and Friederike Hanisch – Senior Climate Project Manager, for their hard work.

Decision

Cabinet approved the introduction of the Energy Upgrade Loan, with an initial loan pot of £250,000, as a new financial product offered to residents and landlords in any ward in the Borough.

32. ARBORICULTURAL SERVICES CONTRACT PROCUREMENT

Councillor Loakes introduced the report and, in doing so, stated that the contract was not solely related to looking after trees in the borough, but also about increasing canopy coverage which would assist in responding to the climate emergency. He gave thanks to Ian Sheppard – Head of Parks and Open Spaces and all other officers involved.

Decision

Cabinet:

- (1) approved the procurement of the Arboricultural Services Contract; and
- (2) delegated authority to award the contract to the Strategic Director of Neighbourhood and Environment in consultation with the Strategic Director of Resources.

33. LEVELLING UP FUND PROGRAMME: CHINGFORD MOUNT & HIGHAMS PARK

Councillor Khan introduced the report and, in doing so, gave thanks to Will Teasdale – Director, Area Regeneration Delivery and all officers involved for their hard work.

Decision

Cabinet:

- (1) noted the successful outcome of the Council's Levelling Up Fund bid for Chingford Mount and Highams Park, which will be delivered through the Government's Capital Regeneration Projects programme;

- (2) noted and endorsed the overview of the programme for taking forward delivery of the Levelling Up funded projects; and
- (3) noted the progress with the governance and administration processes established with the Government and within the Council to oversee delivery of this programme.

The meeting closed at 2.14pm

Chair's Signature _____

Date _____