

**CABINET**

**Monday, 17th July, 2006 at 7.00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

**Cabinet Members:**

Councillor Donatus Anyanwu  
Councillor Mark Bennett  
Councillor John Kazantzis  
Councillor Paul McGlone  
Councillor Lib Peck  
Councillor Sally Prentice  
Councillor Steve Reed

**Portfolio:**

Health and Adult Services  
Community Safety  
Housing  
Regeneration and Enterprise  
Environment and Culture  
Children and Young People  
Leader of the Council (Chair)

**Apologies for absence**

Councillor Jim Dickson and Councillor Jackie Meldrum

**Also present:**

Councillor Clive Bennett, Councillor Kingsley Abrams, Councillor Jeremy Clyne, Councillor Andrew Gibson, Councillor Roger Giess, Councillor Julian Heather, Councillor Ashley Lumsden, Councillor Kirsty McHugh, Councillor Helen O'Malley, Councillor Brian Palmer, Councillor Graham Pycock and Councillor John Whelan

*Action  
required by*

**1. MINUTES (12.06.06)**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2006 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## 3. HOUSING INVESTMENT STRATEGY UPDATE (Item 10 - see report 55/06-07) (Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Interim Executive Director of Housing introduced the report and clarified that this was the start of a consultation process leading to a test of opinion on the issue. The Cabinet heard representations from:

- Ros Monday, Chair of the Tenants Council, asked for the set up of a working group of Council tenants to carry on the work of lobbying Parliament for the 4<sup>th</sup> option (i.e. direct public investment to bring Council housing up to decent homes standard).
- Jean Kerrigan, Chair of local tenants association, claimed that progress made to achieving decent homes standard had been halted following Project Ruby, and that the bid was being made with undue haste. Tenants wanted democratic control of the housing stock which they did not believe was possible with an ALMO.
- Rita Fitzgerald, Chair of North Lambeth Area Forum, asked the Cabinet to challenge the reduction in funding from central government; there should be a fuller debate before the decision to proceed with the ALMO is taken. A reassessment of the stock options appraisal should be awaited.
- Irena Kowalewska of the Arlington Lodge Residents Association considered there had been a loss of trust for tenants in the Council and that they had rejected the ALMO option.
- David Hart drew attention to the issue of sheltered housing and asked where the money would come from to provide for this when it was not fully covered by the bid. He also requested that the 'test of opinion' of tenants be established by a vote.
- Pat Scahill, Chair of Clapham and Stockwell Area Forum, expressed concern over the management of housing stock and how the discussion of ALMO had taken other important items off the agenda, such as the shortfall in HRA.
- Nina Roberts. Vice-Chair of South Streatham Tenants &

Residents Association asked that residents receive more information and a vote on the issue before a decision is taken. Although she had concerns she also did not want this to be a lost opportunity to address the deterioration of the estates and level of disrepair.

- Graham Nichols urged the Cabinet to pursue the 4<sup>th</sup> option and provided the example of Camden Council who had not pursued the ALMO option.
- Councillor Jeremy Clyne asked the Cabinet to challenge the figures provided in the report and questioned the democratic accountability of an ALMO board.
- Councillor Ashley Lumsden requested that the detail of the figures in table 1 be published and also that the Cabinet commit to a full independent ballot of all tenants on the issue. He also asked Cabinet to recognise that a partial stock ALMO could be a way forward.
- Tony Brown gave detailed information on the results of inspections of ALMOs, and asked Cabinet to lobby government for the 4<sup>th</sup> option.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Kirsty McHugh, responded to concerns by stressing the tight timescale for making this bid and that they will work on a proper consultation process to follow this bid as a priority. The ALMO would not be imposed as the support of tenants was required to secure funding.

In response to residents' concerns and Members questions the Interim Executive Director for Housing confirmed:

- That this recommendation was for a bid only and that there will be a full consultation process with tenants and leaseholders so they can ultimately make an informed decision. EDHS
- That the timetable had been dictated by the government's announcement in June that the deadline for the final round of bids would be 31<sup>st</sup> July. EDHS
- That reframing expenses had been factored into table 1 and more detail would be provided on this. Funds had been diverted to support the HRA.
- That he recognised the need to build trust with tenants, but that the figures in the report were honest and the government would test this rigorously. EDHS
- Further detail on the figures in the report would be provided.
- Advice from government was that proposals for the 4<sup>th</sup> option would not be supported.
- That the majority of ALMO's had been very successful.
- That the ALMO could drive forward improvements in management.

- That an ALMO is a management organisation owned by the Council.
- There is currently no other option that to bid for ALMO funding, but this did not rule out opportunities for stock transfers in future.
- That there needed to be discussion on the best way to construct the consultation with tenants and leaseholders.

EDHS

JK, EDHS

The Cabinet Member for Housing apologised for the lack of consultation but emphasised that this would take place over the following year. He stressed that this would not lead to privatisation and that the Council would retain ownership of stock. He also confirmed that he had been lobbying Parliament over the last four years on the 4<sup>th</sup> option and would continue to do so. He was agreeable to the establishment of a working group.

The Cabinet Member then MOVED an additional recommendation:

- (3) The Cabinet notes that the management of all of Lambeth's sheltered stock will be part of the proposed ALMO as outlined in paragraph 2.6, and the Sheltered Housing Commission is about to begin to look at the longer term future of housing for older people in the borough.

The Cabinet understands that it is likely that sheltered stock needs more investment than Decent Homes, and would ask that if an ALMO is formed, it takes responsibility for delivering the outcomes of the Commission for Lambeth sheltered stock and in particular any options for additional investment and re-provision.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Executive Director of Housing is delegated authority to submit a bid to form a whole stock ALMO by the deadline of 31 July 2006.
- (2) That officers develop and deliver a comprehensive information and consultation plan leading up to the Test of Opinion prior to any decision to form an ALMO.
- (3) That the Cabinet notes that the management of all of Lambeth's sheltered stock will be part of the proposed ALMO as outlined in paragraph 2.6, and the Sheltered Housing Commission is about to begin to look at the longer term future of housing for older people in the borough.

EDHS

EDHS

EDHS, EDACS

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**4. TRANSFORMING SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION:  
BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE AND THE ACADEMIES  
PROGRAMME: LAMBETH BSF EDUCATION VISION (Item 3 -  
see report 48/06-07) (Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm,  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People introduced the report and highlighted that there was broad all party consensus on the need to increase school places in the borough.

Ray Serotkin and Sara Tomlinson (NUT) responded to the report:

- They approved of the building of a new school but not that it should be an academy
- The Institute of Public Policy Research had advised that the LEA should be the admissions gateway for all state schools
- The National Governors Association were pressing for a halt on academies due to concern over democratic control
- That ARC (Absolute Return for Children) had admitted no holding no experience in the running of schools
- They questioned the background of ARC directors
- They requested Council keep an eye on Merton as parents had not been involved with the consultation

Julie Wall, a parent, asked why a parent promoted school could not happen in the top of the borough and stressed the need for a local community school.

Alan Bradley, a teacher and local resident, and Chris Kelly, a teacher at a local Lambeth school, spoke against city academies.

Councillor Roger Giess noted that there was no reference about a new academy on Brixton Hill in the report and that there needed to be an assessment on demand for school places and then a plan for provision submitted.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People's Service responded to Members questions and residents concerns:

EDCYPS

- The academy would be a local school.
- The Council was currently at the initial feasibility stage and full consultation would take place before submission for planning approval.
- That if they went back on the decision now they would need to convince the DfES and find £25m. This would delay improvements on existing schools and any alternative would take another 2 – 3 years to get back to

this point.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People stated:

- That the parent promoted schools and academies would have more inclusive admissions policy and that the Shakespeare Road Academy would be using the Council's admissions policy.
- That an external feasibility study on the Brixton Hill option was needed so that serious consideration could be given to this option. A project board had been established.
- That there was no feasible alternative to City Academies.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That Cabinet approve the Education Vision and Strategy and confirm its support for the principles outlined in it for delivery of the Building Schools for the Future programme.

EDCYPs

**5. SHAKESPEARE ROAD ACADEMY SITE ASSEMBLY** (Item 4 - see report 49/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise presented the report and expressed the administration's preference for option b and a temporary relocation of environmental services to 4 sites whilst a permanent central site is investigated. The Executive Director of Corporate Services confirmed the additional costs of pursuing options b or c would be £10.4m and that he would report back on how these costs could be mitigated.

EDCS

John Rush, a local resident, urged Cabinet to pursue option B as a temporary site and that he would work with the Council to mitigate negative impact on the areas. He also asked for further assistance to be given to those businesses due to be evicted from the Mahatma Ghandi site.

Councillor Graham Pycock, Chair of Norwood Area Committee, introduced the resolution from Norwood Area Committee (tabled):

The Norwood Area Committee notes with approval the improvement plans for the Vale Street site, including a housing development. The Area Committee is concerned that the Cabinet is considering a return to the site of a depot for heavy lorries.

Local people in Norwood fought a long campaign to improve the amenity of this site, accepting the retention of a modernised recycling facility in this residential part of Gipsy Hill ward. The Norwood Area Committee is opposed to a change of plan involving a re-use of this site for parking vehicle fleets.

Councillor Graham Pycock asked the Cabinet to defer a decision on this issue, and expressed concern over the impact on the previously settled plan for this site - the parts of the site to be used would impact on the current planned uses (play area, housing and civic amenity site).

Councillor Andrew Gibson, Gipsy Hill Ward, stated that it was inappropriate for large vehicles to use the narrow roads around this site which had a history of poor road safety. He was concerned that provision was being taken away from the community and urged the Cabinet to defer and visit the site visit.

Councillor Ashley Lumsden stated that work had previously been done on a Brixton site and this should be taken to the working group. He urged Cabinet to defer the issue as he could see no assessment for value for money in the scheme.

During the debate, the guillotine fell at 9.00pm. The Chair MOVED and it was:

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.5 of the Executive Procedure Rules, the meeting continue for up to an hour in order to deal with the remaining business.

Angela Lansbury, a spokesperson on behalf of residents of Martell and Tritton Roads, drew attention to the narrow streets, bus runs and congestion in the area around Vale Street and did not believe the proposal was acceptable, even as a temporary measure.

Paul Reynolds of the Herne Hill Forum stated he would be seeking assurances from the Parks Forum that open space would be retained in Loughborough Park.

Cabinet Members expressed support for option b whilst acknowledging that it was a difficult issue. The Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture stated that sports facilities and traffic management issues would be looked into by the Environment Directorate.

EDEC

The Executive Director for Corporate Services confirmed that:

- They would look at mitigating measures to reduce impact on residents
- They would follow up on support for evicted businesses on the Mahatma Ghandi estate
- That there would be further report back
- That the permanent games area in Vale Street would be delayed but not the housing although he would confirm this

EDCS

RESOLVED:

- (1) To endorse the decision of the Executive on 13 June 2005 to

locate a permanent Academy at Shakespeare Road.

- (2) To endorse the decision of the Executive on 13 June 2005 to authorise the Executive Director of Environment and the Executive Director of Education (now CYPS) to pursue a Compulsory Purchase Order for the Cleanaway section of the Shakespeare Road site as a contingency to facilitate the on-time delivery of the Shakespeare Road Academy and associated depot relocations. EDCYPS
- (3) To agree the attendant development of a temporary Academy on the site of the Brixton Social Education Centre (BSEC) on Somerleyton Road (to be funded from the depot relocation budget in advance of the outcome of this year's budget setting process) and instruct officers to proceed with the implementation of all related works to ensure that this is completed to programme.
- (4) To support Option B as detailed in the report.
- (5) To instruct officers to review options for a suitable permanent site to relocate the entire fleet to allow the relocation of the waste fleet from Shakespeare Road residual site in advance of the permanent Academy opening in September 2009. EDEC
- (6) To instruct officers to prepare a contingency option (Option C) should Option B prove not to be feasible in operational or financial terms. In this event, Members are minded to support Mahatma Gandhi Industrial Estate (MGIE) as the permanent site for the transport and street cleansing fleets, with alternative options for the permanent location of the waste and recycling fleets to be sought.
- (7) To instruct officers to prepare a full financial and technical appraisal for Options B and C to be presented to Cabinet for decision in September 2006.
- (8) To agree to Option A as a further contingency should both Options B and C prove not to be feasible in operational or financial terms, and instruct officers to carry out the minimum works necessary to ensure Option A remains a viable option pending the outcome of the full financial and technical appraisal.
- (9) To instruct officers to submit bids through the budget setting process for the identified shortfall for Option A, the additional costs of the temporary solution for Option B and the costs of the permanent relocation of the depot in Option B.

**6. INSPECTION OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL CARE INSPECTION** (Item 6 - see report 51/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

Terry Hutt Inspector for the Commission for Social Care Inspection

presented the results of the inspection (both strengths and areas for improvement) and stressed the positive findings – their judgement that most Older People were served well by services in Lambeth and the capacity to improve was promising. He added that he found officers were proud to be working for Lambeth, which was rare in local authorities.

The Leader of the Council thanked Mr Hutt and all the officers who assisted in the inspection, and especially the staff who were providing such a well regarded service. The Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, and the Interim Executive Director of Adult and Community Services and commended the staff. Councillor Roger Giess was concerned that joining social services to health might mean the join between adult services and all other Council services might be compromised by the strong national agenda for health.

The Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services MOVED an amendment to recommendation 2:

- (2) To approve the Action Plan as set out in Appendix 2 and agree recommendations that can be contained within existing resources and to consider those recommendations which require additional funding as part of 2007/08 and future years budget setting process.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) To note the Inspection Report by the Commission for Social Care Inspection as set out in Appendix 1.
- (2) To approve the Action Plan as set out in Appendix 2 and agree recommendations that can be contained within existing resources and to consider those recommendations which require additional funding as part of 2007/08 and future years budget setting process.

EDACS

**7. STREATHAM ICE AND LEISURE CENTRE FUNDING AND CONSTRUCTION** (Item 5 - see report 50/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture and Interim Divisional Director of Culture presented the report and explained that there was no engineering reason why the project could not be carried through with excellence and that risks had been identified and managed.

Saki Hajnal, Secretary of Streatham Ice Skating Action Group, was pleased this milestone had been reached but concerned about the funding gap. She stressed the need for the existing facilities to be accessible until new facilities were open. i.e. beyond the 'practical

completion' date.

Councillors Roger Giess and Brian Palmer drew attention to the shortfall, asked to remove the possibility of the project scope being reduced, and asked for a clear undertaking from Cabinet that there would be continuity of usage for the ice rink. A resolution had been passed at the Streatham Area Committee requesting this.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise MOVED an amendment and an additional recommendation:

AMEND Recommendation (3) to refer to Recommendation 2

ADD Recommendation:

- (4) That the final Development Agreement (including all Schedules) will be agreed by officers under delegated powers in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED:

EDEC

- (1) That Cabinet notes the draft of the Streatham Ice and Leisure Centre 'Development Agreement' for the procurement of the Streatham Ice and Leisure Centre and agrees that the Council should enter the 'Development Agreement' with Tesco PLC, subject to:
- The Council being able to close the funding gap of £1.2 million.
  - The final draft of the document being agreed with the Council's legal officer.
- (2) That the Executive Director of Finance and the Executive Director of Environment and Culture seek to close the funding gap through obtaining additional third party funding, reducing the project scope and/or other similar action as appropriate.
- (3) That, in the event that efforts arising from recommendation 2 are not successful, the Executive Director of Finance and the Executive Director of Environment and Culture report back to the Cabinet on viable options to reduce other items in the approved capital programme in order to bridge the funding gap.
- (4) That the final Development Agreement (including all Schedules) will be agreed by officers under delegated powers in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members.

**8. FURTHER INTEGRATION OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN LAMBETH** (Item 8 - see report 53/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

The Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services presented the report and stressed the potential of providing better services by working closer together.

The Chair noted that the Cabinet would not wish the timetable to slip, but acknowledged the need for the proper process to be followed.

The Interim Executive Director of Adult and Community Services stressed that the timetable was ambitious, that they were paying special attention to governance issues and were currently looking at models to inform the recommendations. In response to questions, she confirmed that consultations would begin now with as many Members and stakeholders as possible.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Cabinet support the further integration of health and social care in Lambeth, as outlined in this report.
- (2) That a joint Adult and Community Services and PCT Project Team be established to take forward this further integration.
- (3) That the Cabinet give in principle support to the appointment of a number of single joint posts at a senior level, including a single post combining the current responsibilities of the Executive Director of Adult and Community Services and those of the Chief Executive of the PCT. Such a move would be subject to the agreement of the Lambeth PCT Board and officers asked to develop the necessary revised appointment arrangements.

EDACS

**9. CYPS INCLUSION STRATEGY FOR EDUCATION 2006 - 2016** (Item 7 - see report 52/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the CYPS Inclusion Strategy for Education is approved and implemented.

EDCYPs

**10. ADOPTION OF RIVERSIDE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY** (Item 9 - see report 54/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

**RESOLVED:**

EDEC

- (1) That the Council does not adopt the draft Riverside Waste Partnership Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- (2) That the Executive Director for Environment and Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture advises the other authorities in the Riverside Waste Partnership of the Council's decision and reasons as set out in the report with a view to getting the draft aligned with the Council's requirements at the earliest opportunity.

**11. MYATT'S FIELDS PARK REGENERATION - SIGN OFF OF LBL COMMITMENT TO REVENUE INCREASES AS PART OF THE STAGE 2 BID TO THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND** (Item 10 - see report 55/06-07) **(Key decision – call-in period ends 5pm, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006)**

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture expressed her appreciation for the patience of the Friends Group.

**RESOLVED:**

EDEC

- (1) That the Cabinet signs off the Council's commitment to the increased costs outlined in the report.

**12. MYATTS FIELD NORTH REPORT: DEVELOPMENT PLANNING GUIDELINES** (Item 12- see report 5706-07 and report to Council)

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise thanked the officers involved for their work.

**RESOLVED:**

EDCS

- (1) That the amendments to the Consultation draft of the Development Planning Guidelines for Myatts Field North set out in Appendix 1 is agreed and that the amended DPG Appendix 2 is approved.
- (2) That the amended Myatts Field North Final Draft Development Planning Guidelines June 2006 are to be submitted to the Council for approval.

DSO

**13. LAMBETH YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2006-07** (Item 13 - see report 58/06-07 and report to Council)

**RESOLVED:**

EDCYPS

- (1) To approve the Youth Justice Plan for 2006/07 for submission to full Council for formal adoption in November 2006. DSO

**14. THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2006** (Item 14 - see report 59/06-07)

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People confirmed the report was to be discussed at that week's Corporate Parenting Board.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the first annual report of the Council's work in respect of Corporate Parenting be considered. EDCYPS
- (2) That the revised terms of reference for the Corporate Parenting Board attached as Appendix 1 are approved and Council recommended to amend the Constitution accordingly (Constitution 2006-07, Part 3, Section 1 and Part 4, Section 7). DSO

**15. THE IMPACT OF THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES ON LAMBETH** (Item 15 - see report 60/06-07)

**RESOLVED:**

EDEC

- (1) That a high level, Member and cross-departmental steering group is formed to develop Lambeth's Olympic programme in the areas of Environment and Culture, Children and Young People, Housing and Regeneration. EDHS, EDCYPS, EDEC
- (2) That the Cultural Services Division of Environment and Culture leads the planning of the London Olympics 2012 initiative within the Council – responding to developments and co-ordinating activities within the Council. This initiative will be developed further within the process of the Borough's first Cultural Strategy.
- (3) That sitting within the Cultural Strategy a 'Tourism Plan for Lambeth' will use the prestige of London 2012 Games to promote the hospitality, leisure, travel and tourism sectors in Lambeth, encouraging skill training and inward investment.
- (4) That London 2012 is used to inspire a new generation to greater sporting activity and achievement, helping to foster a healthy and active community.
- (5) That a specific plan be prepared to ensure the Council

captures the benefits articulated within 'Building upon Success' – London's Challenge for Olympics 2012.

**16. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP FOR LAMBETH** (Item 16 - see report 61/06-07)

The Chief Executive asked that Cabinet acknowledge the ongoing discussions about some elements of the re-aligning of services, e.g. social exclusion issues, and that they delegate authority to him to revise the recommendations made in the Appendix, with a further report back in November 2006.

**RESOLVED:**

CE and SMB

That the Cabinet:

- (1) Notes and endorses the proposals set out in sections 2.3 and the timeframes for delivery outlined in section 8.
- (2) Notes that the Chief Executive will determine the detailed staffing structures in consultation with the Executive Directors and the Divisional Director of Human Resources, following consultation with directly affected staff and staff side.
- (3) Receives a progress report on the implementation of the realignment by November 2006.
- (4) Notes that the cost of phase 1 of the reorganisation will be managed within existing resources and that any costs and savings associated with Phase 2 and 3 will be managed through the Council's normal service and budget planning processes.
- (5) That authority is delegated to the Chief Executive to revise recommendations made in the appendix in line with ongoing discussions, and with a further report back in November 2006.

**17. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 9.58pm.

CHAIR  
CABINET  
Monday, 31st July, 2006

Date of Despatch: Friday, 21 July 2006  
Call-in period ends: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006  
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