

London Borough of Islington

Executive - 19 October 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held in the Council Chamber, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD on 19 October 2023 at 7.00 pm.

Present: **Councillors** Kaya Comer-Schwartz, Diarmaid Ward, Una O'Halloran, Rowena Champion, John Woolf, Santiago Bell-Bradford, Nurullah Turan, Michelline Ngongo and Roulin Khondoker

Also Present: **Councillor:** Ernestas Jegorovas-Armstrong

Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz in the Chair

160 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

161 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

162 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them

163 PHASE 2 OF SCHOOL ORGANISATION

RESOLVED:

(a) To note the contents of the report of the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families, detailing proposals to reduce the number of school places in a planned way to support schools to manage change within their national funding formula allocations.

(b) To approve the proposals in paragraph 4 of exempt Appendix A (exempt agenda item G1).

Reasons for the decision – to drive educational excellence through inclusive and sustainable schools

Other options considered – none

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

164 **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR MENTAL HEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE**

RESOLVED:

(a) To approve the procurement strategy for the Mental Health Employment Support Service, as outlined in the report of the Executive Member for Health and Social Care.

(b) To delegate authority to award the contract to the Director for Adult Social Care, following consultation with the Executive Member for Health and Social Care.

Reasons for the decision – to secure best value for money and maximise opportunities to benefit residents. The new approach would further develop an integrated pathway between specialist mental health employment support and the Council's adult employment service to ensure clearer pathways and improved job outcomes for residents.

Other options considered – none

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

165 **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR THE ISLINGTON FILM SERVICE CONTRACT**

RESOLVED:

(a) To approve the procurement strategy for Islington Film Service, as outlined in the report of the Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion.

(b) To delegate the decision to award the contract to the Corporate Director Community Engagement and Wellbeing, following consultation with the Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion.

Reasons for the decision – The procurement exercise for an external provider for the Islington Film Service was to be undertaken because the other options considered were likely to incur greater expense and to reduce income to the Council.

Other options considered – four options were considered.

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

166 **PURCHASING 310 EX-RIGHT TO BUY PROPERTIES**

RESOLVED:

(a) To approve the borrowing of £85,304,000 within the Housing Revenue Account to supplement the funding provided by the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUH&C) to enable the Council to purchase 310 Ex Right to Buy properties, as detailed in the report of the Executive Member for Homes and Communities and the Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion.

(b) To note the capital funding of up to £81,725,260 allocated to Islington Council by the DLUH&C to enter into the grant agreements and to commence

the purchasing of 310 Ex Right to Buy properties in Islington to accommodate homeless households with a local connection to Islington.

(c) To note the funding and to commence the purchase of these properties immediately.

(d) To approve the budget increases as outlined in paragraph 4.1.4 of the report.

Reasons for the decision – To assist the Council’s commitment to end homelessness, whilst ensuring a robust humanitarian response to support refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Other options considered – the Council considered partnering with a registered social landlord to deliver the programme, but this would not have offered greater benefits compared to the existing framework.

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

167 **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION**

RESOLVED:

(a) To approve the procurement strategy for establishing a flexible framework for the procurement of nightly paid temporary accommodation, as outlined in the report of the Executive Member for Homes and Communities.

(b) To delegate authority to the Acting Corporate Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods to award any call-off contracts pursuant to the flexible framework for nightly paid temporary accommodation.

(c) To delegate authority to the Acting Corporate Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods to award any required contracts for spot purchased temporary accommodation until the flexible framework was re-opened as outlined in the report.

Reasons for the decision – The strategy would ensure that the accommodation was in place to avoid homeless families being forced to sleep on the streets and would enable the Council to access a wider portfolio of accommodation options.

Other options considered – four options were considered.

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

168 **PHASE 2 OF SCHOOL ORGANISATION - EXEMPT APPENDICES**

RESOLVED:

To approve the proposals set out in paragraph 4 of the exempt appendix to the report of the Executive Member for Children Young People and Families, to reduce the number of school places in a planned way to support schools to manage change within their national funding formula allocations.

Reasons for the decision – to drive educational excellence through inclusive and sustainable schools

Other options considered – a range of options were considered.

Conflicts of interest / dispensations granted – none

169 **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR FILM SERVICE - EXEMPT APPENDIX**
Noted.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm

CHAIR