

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CABINET

Tuesday, 19 April 2005

7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Clyde Loakes	Council Leader
Councillor Keith Rayner	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder, Corporate Services
Councillor Liaquat Ali	Portfolio Holder, Community Engagement and Equalities
Councillor David Blunt	Portfolio Holder, Environment
Councillor Jenny Gray	Portfolio Holder, Strategic Innovation, Performance and Learning
Councillor Loretta Hodges	Portfolio Holder, Housing
Councillor Chris Robbins	Portfolio Holder, Culture, Learning and Leisure
Councillor Barry Smith	Portfolio Holder, Community Safety
Councillor Graham Smith	Portfolio Holder, Health and Social Care
Councillor Simon Wright	Portfolio Holder, Regeneration

Other Councillors Present:

(none)

166 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Jacquie Dean, Chief Executive; Chan Badrinath, Executive Director, Corporate Services and Phil Cox, Head of Human Resources.

167 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

168 **MINUTES OF CABINET**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2005 were confirmed as a correct record

169 **FORWARD PLAN**

Cabinet noted the Forward Plan for the period May 2005 to August 2005.

170 **PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2005/06**

The Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement and Equalities drew attention to the progress that had been made on community engagement work, and informed Cabinet that it was important to progress this work through the introduction of the pending Community Cohesion Strategy, particularly in order to engage with the hard to reach elements of the community.

Cabinet also noted the positive work being undertaken within the portfolios of Health and Social Care, and Culture, Learning and Leisure, including a wide consultation exercise being carried out by the Council's Consultation Manager involving young people and schools in the borough, the results of which would be available in the summer.

Cabinet acknowledged the importance of the inspection regime, and the role the inspection process had played in bringing about improvements in the Council's services.

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet agreed to recommend to Full Council the Performance and Improvement Plan 2005-2008 for approval.

171 **LIBRARY RENEWAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet agreed:

1. To waive the authority's Contract Procedure Rules and extend the existing appointment of the design team, led by Faulkner Browns architects, from initial feasibility study to outline design stage on Walthamstow and Leytonstone libraries, to not more than £150,000.
2. That the capital funding required in regard to point 1 above, be provided on an interim basis and recouped from the proceeds of the disposal of the Arcade site.

172 EDP2 ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2005/06

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet agreed the Annual School Improvement Plan for 2005/2006.

173 CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION STRATEGY

Cabinet placed on record its thanks to Robin Tuddenham and other Council officers and partners for their work in the production of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

Cabinet were of the opinion that the Strategy should have contained more information on the amount of input into the Strategy from outside bodies and also via Community Councils.

Cabinet acknowledged the impact that Neighbourhood Safety Teams were making by their visibility on the Borough's streets in reducing crime and the fear of crime, and that their work along with that of Community Street Wardens, had resulted in a real difference being made to make the Borough's residents feel safer.

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet agreed to recommend to Full Council the Crime, Disorder and Reduction Strategy 2005/2008 for approval.

174 CONFIDENTIAL AND/OR EXEMPT REPORTS NOT TO BE DISCLOSED TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cabinet resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the consideration of the item 10 below.

175 COUNCIL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE (CITI) PARTNERSHIP

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet agreed to the extension for a period of three years of the Council Information Technology (CITI) Partnership Contract with LogicaCMG.

176 PORTFOLIO HOLDER REPORTS

The Portfolio Holders for Health and Social Care, and Strategic Innovation, Performance and Learning expressed concern that the Portfolio Holder reports which had produced for this meeting of Cabinet had not been included in the agenda.

The Unit Head, Corporate Governance stated that due to the impending General Election, and regulations relating thereto concerning business transacted by local authority committees, it had been decided that only essential items and/or statutory business would be considered at this meeting.

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Chair