

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27
FEBRUARY 2013**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Kate Anolue (Mayor), Chaudhury Anwar MBE (Deputy Mayor), Alan Barker, Caitriona Bearryman, Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Jayne Buckland, Alev Cazimoglu, Bambos Charalambous, Lee Chamberlain, Yusuf Cicek, Christopher Cole, Andreas Constantinides, Ingrid Cranfield, Christopher Deacon, Dogan Delman, Christiana During, Marcus East, Patricia Ekechi, Achilleas Georgiou, Del Goddard, Christine Hamilton, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Denise Headley, Ertan Hurer, Tahsin Ibrahim, Chris Joannides, Jon Kaye, Nneka Keazor, Joanne Laban, Henry Lamprecht, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Simon Maynard, Donald McGowan, Chris Murphy, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Martin Prescott, Geoffrey Robinson, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Doug Taylor, Glynis Vince, Ozzie Uzoanya, Tom Waterhouse, Lionel Zetter and Ann Zinkin

ABSENT Ali Bakir, Jonas Hall, Eric Jukes, Paul McCannah, Daniel Pearce and Rohini Simbodyal

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**ELECTION (IF REQUIRED) OF THE CHAIRMAN/DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF
THE MEETING**

The election of a Chairman/Deputy Chairman of the meeting was not required.

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MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

Father Emmanuel – Parish Priest of St Edmonds Church, Edmonton, gave the blessing.

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**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) IN CONNECTION WITH THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL BUSINESS**

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- She thanked Father Emmanuel for offering the blessing.

The Mayor highlighted the following achievements:

(a) Primary School Public Speaking Competition

The Mayor advised that she was delighted to be joined at the meeting by Michael Deane, a pupil at Bowes Primary School, as winner of the Primary Public Speaking Competition.

She then invited Michael to read his winning speech to the Council, with Members warmly congratulating him afterwards on his achievement.

(b) Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

The Mayor advised that she was also delighted to welcome Rashawn Grant to the meeting, as winner of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge.

Rashawn was invited to read his winning entry to the meeting, for which he was also warmly congratulated afterwards by the Council.

(c) Enfield Youth Parliament

The Mayor welcomed Giles Abban, Jake Orros, Doni Jones & Yousif Alawoad, who she advised had been invited to attend the meeting in order to update Members on the work they had been undertaking as the elected representatives on Enfield Youth Parliament.

The representatives had been elected by over 9000 young people across the borough with the following achievements highlighted as part of the update:

- inclusion of views from young people in the development of various major regeneration projects across the borough;
- representation of Enfield Youth Parliament at a number of national and regional youth summits;
- the election of a representative from Enfield on the UK Youth Parliament;
- implementation of a national campaign designed to make the education system more relevant to everyday life; and
- engagement and support for projects under the Invest in Us & I Aspire schemes.

The Mayor and Council thanked the representatives, along with the Youth Workers supporting them, for attending the meeting and the update provided.

Members were reminded that the Mayors Spring Ball would be taking place on Saturday 16th March at Forty Hall and thanked for their support of the event.

**132
MINUTES**

AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2013 be confirmed and signed as a correct record

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APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ali Bakir, Jonas Hall, Eric Jukes, Paul McCannah, Daniel Pearce and Rohini Simbodyal. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Simon Maynard.

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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

John Austin (Assistant Director Corporate Governance) reminded members of the requirements within the new Member Code of Conduct, relating to the declaration of interests. The code had introduced a new category of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) which in effect had replaced the previous category of prejudicial interests, but had not exempted these requirements (as under the previous framework) in relation to decisions on the setting of Council Tax, Housing Rents & Members Allowances.

The Mayor advised that in order to enable members to participate in the debate and vote on the Council Tax, Housing Rents and Members Allowances scheme the Councillor Conduct Committee on 14 February 2013 had agreed to grant a general dispensation under section 31 (4) (c) of the Councillor Code of Conduct which would apply to agenda items 7 & 8. This would allow all members to participate in the decision on these items and had been approved on the grounds that it would be in the interests of persons living in the Borough for as many members as possible to be able to debate and decide on the issues in question.

Confirmation was provided that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 would still require any Member who was two or more months in arrears on their Council Tax to declare their position and not vote on any issue that could affect the calculation of the budget or Council Tax (under agenda item 7).

Members were then asked to identify any interests in any other agenda items, with the following declarations made:

Agenda Item 9 : North Circular Area Action Plan Proposed Submission Stage - Councillor Oykenner declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as he was the landlord of a property in the area covered within the Plan. He did not participate in the debate or vote and withdrew from the meeting for consideration of this item.

Agenda item 10 – Review & Adoption of Statutory Pay Policy Statement – Councillor Laban declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as her mother was a Council employee. This item was subsequently withdrawn from consideration at the meeting.

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BUDGET 2013/14 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (GENERAL FUND)

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Stafford seconded the report of the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services (No.151A) presenting for approval the Budget for 2013/14 and Medium Term Financial Plan (General Fund).

NOTED

1. The recommendations within the report (with the exception of 2.12 which had been added for Council) had been endorsed and referred onto Council, at the Cabinet meeting held on 12 February 2013.
2. The outcome from the budget consultation process undertaken on the proposals for 2013/14, as detailed within section 4 and Appendix 1 of the report.
3. The ongoing pressures on the Council's budget as a result of the large scale reduction in local government funding by Central Government and the current economic climate alongside the need to manage increasing levels on demand on services and the negative impact of the funding allocation damping mechanism.
4. The significant level of savings already delivered and ongoing need for further reductions to be achieved in relation to maintaining a balanced budget position. It had been recognised that the ongoing strategy to deliver the required level of savings would require hard decisions in relation to service provision but these had and would continue to be undertaken on a prudent basis to avoid creating unnecessary pain and to protect the long term sustainability of services.
5. The savings identified to date and budget proposals for 2013/14 and beyond had been:
 - a. developed to reflect the Administrations key priorities, commitments and achievements and core aims of Fairness for All; Growth & Sustainability and Strong Communities; and
 - b. achieved alongside a further 0% recommended increase in Council Tax and increased satisfaction levels in relation to the management and provision of services by the Council.
6. The concerns highlighted by the Opposition Group in relation to:
 - a. The Strategy in place to continue delivering a balanced budget given the size of the budget deficit and approach outlined within the Council's budget consultation paper and current Medium Term Financial Plan to 2015-16 and beyond.

- b. The planned management and ongoing use of reserves and balances and provisions being made for future management of the Council's financial position outside of any borrowing requirement.
 - c. The assumptions on which delivery of the 2013/14 budget proposals and Medium Term Financial Strategy had been based, with specific reference to the level of inflation, ability to manage the level of demand on services and generate additional income.
7. The thanks to Council officers for their support and efforts in delivery of the budget proposals alongside the key achievements made by the current Administration.

AGREED

- (1) to note S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which required any Member who was two months or more in arrears on their Council Tax to declare their position and not to vote on any issue that could affect the calculation of the budget or Council tax.
- (2) With regard to the revenue budget for 2013/14:
 - (a) The council tax requirement for Enfield be set at £96.343m in 2013/14;
 - (b) Subject to final pupil count data, to approve expenditure of £292.156m in 2013/14 for the Schools budget, funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant;
 - (c) To set the Council Tax at Band D for Enfield's services for 2013/14 at £1,100.34 (as detailed in para 8.1 of the report), there being no increase over the 2012/13 Council Tax;
 - (d) To approve the statutory calculations and resolutions set out in Appendix 10 of the report;
- (3) With regard to the Prudential Code and the Capital Programme:
 - (a) To note the information regarding the requirements of the Prudential Code (as detailed in section 9 of the report);
 - (b) To approve the proposals for allocating resources to capital projects 2012/15 and note the indicative 2015/17 capital programme as set out in section 9 and Appendix 5 of the report;
 - (c) To approve the Prudential Indicators, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Minimum Revenue Provision statement and the criteria for investments, as set out in section 9 and Appendix 4 of the report

- (4) To note, with regard to the Medium Term Financial Plan the forecast for the medium term as set out in section 10 of the report and adopt the key principles set out in paragraph 10.10 of the report.
- (5) With regard to the robustness of the 2013/14 budget and the adequacy of the Council's earmarked reserves and balances:

 - (a) To note the risks and uncertainties inherent in the 2013/14 budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan (as detailed in sections 10 & 11 of the report);
 - (b) To note the advice of the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services regarding the recommended levels of contingencies, balances and earmarked reserves (as detailed in section 12 of the report) and have regard to the Director's statement (as detailed in section 13 of the report) when making final decisions on the 2013/14 budget;
 - (c) The recommended levels of central contingency and general balances (as detailed in section 12 of the report);
- (6) That authority to enter into public health contracts transferring from the NHS is delegated to the Director of Housing, Health & Adult Social care (in conjunction with the Director of Public Health) & the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services. A separate Public health report providing detailed information on each contract will be presented to Cabinet (as detailed in section 5.6 of the report).
- (7) That the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People and Finance & Property be authorised to take the decision on the schools budget for 2013/14 taking into account the comments of the Schools Forum on February 13th 2013 and any relevant decisions which the Forum make under the DfE regulations (as detailed in section 5.7 of the report).
- (8) To set up a Hardship Fund of £0.67m in 2013/14 plus associated costs to be funded from the estimated Collection Fund Surplus at 31st March 2013 (as detailed in section 5.8 of the report).
- (9) To approve the Fees and Charges for Environmental Services for 2013/14, as detailed in section 10.13 and Appendix 11 of the report.
- (10) To approve the Fees and Charges for Adult Social Care Services for 2013/14, as detailed in section 10.14 and Appendix 12 of the report.
- (11) That the current members' allowances scheme is re-approved, and that the automatic increase in allowances by the average earnings as at March not be implemented for 2012/13 or progressively for the 2013/14 financial year (as detailed in section 10.15 of the report).

- (12) That any underspend in the Enfield Residents Priority Fund for 2012/13 be carried forward for utilisation in 2013/14 (as detailed in section 12.5 of the report).

Following a lengthy debate, the above recommendations were put to the vote and approved with the following result:

For: 32
Against: 0
Abstentions: 22

**136
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES 2013/14 AND RENT
SETTING (HRA & TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION)**

Councillor Oykenor moved and Councillor Georgiou seconded the joint report of the Directors of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care & Finance, Resources and Customer Services (No.152A) presenting for approval the revenue estimates of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2013/14 and the updated position on the HRA 30 year business plan.

NOTED

1. The recommendations set out in the report had been endorsed and recommended onto Council at the Cabinet meeting held on 13 February 2013.
2. The background to development of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) estimates and rent setting proposals for 2013/14, which had been designed to reflect:
 - a. the introduction of the HRA self financing system; and
 - b. the requirements and assumptions within the Council's HRA Business Plan
3. In accordance with the HRA Business Plan the proposals for 2013/14 had included an increase in housing rents and service charges. Whilst the recommended increase had been in line with national social rent policy and government guidelines on self financing it had been set at as minimal a level as possible in order to support ongoing delivery of the Business Plan and the Council's wider estate regeneration proposals.
4. The need to recognise the future impact of the Government's welfare reforms and benefit changes on the HRA, due to be implemented from 2013/14 onwards.
5. Whilst supportive of the recommendations within the report, concerns were raised by the Opposition Group regarding management of the Council's overall budget deficit and need to consider alternative methods

of addressing demand on services, particularly in relation the provision of temporary accommodation for homeless households.

6. The thanks to Council officers for their support and efforts in delivery of the budget proposals alongside the key achievements in relation to the housing service.

Following a further period of debate the recommendations in the report were approved, without a vote.

AGREED

- (1) To approve the detailed revenue estimates of the Housing Revenue Account for 2013/14
- (2) That the rents be increased in line with national social rent policy. This would result in an average increase of 3.9% for Enfield tenants.
- (3) That all void properties be re let at target rent.
- (4) The level of service charges for 2013/14 as set out in Paragraph 6.1 of the report for those properties receiving the services.
- (5) The proposals for increases in other income for 2013/14, as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report.
- (6) The Temporary Accommodation rents for 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 5 of the report.
- (7) The total HRA capital programme of £47.5m.
- (8) To note that Cabinet agreed authority should be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care to approve tenders for Decent Homes and General Works.

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NORTH CIRCULAR AREA ACTION PLAN PROPOSED SUBMISSION STAGE

Councillor Goddard moved and Councillor Georgiou seconded the report from the Director of Regeneration, Leisure & Culture (No.155A) seeking approval of the proposed submission North Circular Area Action Plan (NCAAP) and the subsequent consultation and submission, together with the necessary supporting documents to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

NOTED

1. The recommendations within the report had been considered and referred onto Council for approval by Cabinet on 13 February 2013.

2. The background to preparation of the NCAAP, as detailed in section 3 of the report.
3. The schedule of minor changes to the Plan set out in section 3.12 of the report, which had been agreed for incorporation into the Plan publication document following consultation with ward councillors, Local Plan Cabinet Sub Committee and Cabinet.
4. The next steps in the development of the Plan and submission process, as detailed in section 4 of the report, which would include a further period of public consultation on the proposed Submission Area Action Plan.
5. The concerns highlighted by the Opposition Group at proposal 6 within the minor schedule of changes which would amend the local plan policies map to remove the designated safeguarded line, on adoption of the NCAAP.

As a result of the concerns raised Councillor Prescott moved and Councillor Rye seconded an amendment to the recommendations within the report seeking the inclusion of an additional recommendation requiring an amendment to the NCAAP to avoid it encroaching on site lines. The amendment was subsequently withdrawn, after a period of further debate, with members noting the opportunity to address the concerns identified through the next stage in the public consultation process.

The recommendations in the report were then approved without a vote, subject to 1 abstention being recorded.

AGREED

- (1) To approve the proposed submission North Circular Area Action Plan (incorporating the changes detailed in section 3.12 of the report) for an extended statutory publication of 7 weeks and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State.
- (2) The Cabinet member for Business & Regeneration be authorised to approve the publication of the Sustainability Appraisal and Equality Impact Assessment of the proposed submission North Circular Area Action Plan.
- (3) The Director of Regeneration, Leisure & Culture, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Business & Regeneration, approve appropriate changes to the proposed submission version of the North Circular Area Action Plan and undertake any further consultation required in the run up to and during the public examination process into the document, in response to representations received, requests from the Planning Inspector and any emerging evidence, guidance or legal advice. Changes of a substantive nature may be considered by the Local Plan Cabinet Sub Committee.

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COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8 - DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

NOTED in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8 (page 4-7 – Part 4), the Mayor advised the Council that the time available for the meeting had now elapsed and the remaining items of business would be dealt with in accordance with the expedited procedure.

The remaining items of business were then considered without debate.

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REVIEW & ADOPTION OF A STATUTORY PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Assistant Director Corporate Governance advised that the report from the Chief Executive (No.171) had been withdrawn from the agenda to enable consideration to be given to additional guidance from the Secretary of State received following publication of the report.

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FAIRNESS FOR ALL - EQUALITY & DIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT 2012

RECEIVED the report of the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services (No.153) presenting Enfield Council's Equality & Diversity Scheme Annual Report 2012.

NOTED that the report was considered and approved by Cabinet on 13 February 2013 and had been referred onto Council for information only.

AGREED to note the Equality & Diversity Annual Report 2012.

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COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED - 30 MINUTES)

1.1. Urgent Questions

None received.

1.2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED that no questions had been submitted for written response.

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MOTIONS

The following motions listed on the agenda lapsed due to lack of time:

1.1 In the name of Councillor Goddard

"This Council believes that the recent report, No Stone Unturned - In pursuit of Growth - by the Right Honourable Lord Heseltine, provides a

possible framework for sustainable growth not only in the UK but in Enfield and our region and sub region.

This Council endorses the general principle within the report that Local Government (Local and Regional) has the capability to generate growth if only it was supported by Government.

Whilst there may be issues regarding some of the 89 recommendations which may be open to debate, Council calls upon the Government and The Mayor to begin the process of considering and implementing the proposals and therefore suggests to the LGA a range of regional seminars to discuss the report.”

1.2 In the name of Councillor Hamilton

“We ask this Council to note the One Billion Rising Campaign, and the call to end violence against women and girls; and we call on Enfield Council to support the call to introduce statutory provisions to make personal, social and health education, include a zero tolerance approach to violence and abuse in relationships.

We call on this Council to invite a speaker from the national campaign to address the Council meeting in November to mark White Ribbon Day, in recognition that Enfield Council was the first London Authority to be awarded white ribbon status for its work on raising awareness and tackling violence against women and girls.”

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MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

NOTED that following discussion with both Groups prior to the meeting it had been agreed that the item would now be dealt with under the changes being proposed to Committee Memberships.

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MEMBERSHIPS

AGREED the following changes to committee memberships

- (1) **Older People & Vulnerable Adults Scrutiny Panel** – Councillor Joannides to be replaced by vacancy
- (2) **Pension Fund Board** – Councillor Jukes to replace Councillor Hall
- (3) **Learning Difficulties Partnership Board** – Councillor Joannides to be replaced by a vacancy
- (4) **Green Belt Forum** – Councillor East to replace Councillor D.Pearce

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NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

AGREED the following changes to the membership of outside bodies:

- (1) **Health & Well Being Shadow Board** – Councillor Bond (as Cabinet member for Environment) to fill newly created position on Board
- (2) **Enfield, Essex & Hertfordshire Border Liaison Group** – Councillor Laban to replace Councillor Lamprecht
- (3) **Health & Social Partnership Board**
 - (a) **Mental Health** – Councillor A.M.Pearce to replace Councillor Joannides
 - (b) **Carers** – Councillor Headley to replace Councillor Joannides
 - (c) **Older People** – Councillor Headley to replace Councillor A.M.Pearce
- (4) **Single Homeless Forum** – Councillor Smith to replace Councillor Joannides

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USE OF URGENCY PROCEDURES - MONITORING UPDATE

NOTED the details of the following decision taken under the Council's urgency procedure relating to the waiver of call-in and, where necessary, the period of notice for key decisions along with the reasons for urgency. These decision had been made in accordance with the urgency procedures set out in Paragraph 17.3 of Chapter 4.2 (Scrutiny) and Paragraph 16 of Chapter 4.6 (Access to Information) of the Council's Constitution:

1. Approval of Project Orders – Primary Expansion Programme (Rule 16)

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CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council would be held at 7pm on 27 March 2013 at the Civic Centre.

149

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

AGREED to pass a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for

the item of business listed on part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

150

BUDGET 2013/14 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (GENERAL FUND)

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services (No.158) detailing commercially sensitive information relating to the Pest Control and Commercial Waste Fees and Charges for Environmental Services for 2013/14.

NOTED the report had been submitted in conjunction with Report No151A on the Part 1 agenda (Min.135 refers). The recommendation in the report had been endorsed and recommended onto Council, at the Cabinet meeting held on 13 February 2013.

AGREED that the Pest Control and Commercial Waste Fees and Changes for Environmental Services be approved for 2013/14, as detailed in section 3.1 of the report.

(Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended)