

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET
HELD ON MONDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2012**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Doug Taylor (Leader of the Council), Achilleas Georgiou (Deputy Leader), Chris Bond (Cabinet Member for Environment), Bambos Charalambous (Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Youth and Localism), Del Goddard (Cabinet Member for Business and Regeneration), Christine Hamilton (Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing and Public Health), Donald McGowan (Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Care and Health), Ayfer Orhan (Cabinet Member for Children & Young People) and Ahmet Oykenar (Cabinet Member for Housing)

ABSENT Andrew Stafford (Cabinet Member for Finance and Property)

OFFICERS: Rob Leak, James Rolfe (Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services), Andrew Fraser (Director of Schools & Children's Services), Asmat Hussain (Assistant Director Legal), Sally McTernan (Assistant Director Community Housing Services), Paul Walker (Assistant Director, Regeneration, Planning & Programme Management), John Austin (Assistant Director - Corporate Governance) and Suzanne Linsey (Press Officer) Jacqui Hurst (Secretary)

Also Attending: Councillor Derek Levy.

**1
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andrew Stafford (Cabinet Member for Finance and Property), Ray James (Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care), Neil Rousell (Director of Regeneration, Leisure and Culture) and, Ian Davis (Director of Environment).

**2
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3
URGENT ITEMS**

NOTED that the report listed on the agenda had not been circulated in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information and Meetings)

(England) Regulations 2012. These requirements state that agendas and reports should be circulated at least 5 clear days in advance of meetings.

AGREED that Report No.96 – A Draft Revised Allocations Scheme for Enfield for Allocating Social Rented Homes in Enfield, be considered at this meeting to enable the report to be referred to the full Council meeting scheduled to take place on 7 November 2012.

4

DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

NOTED that no requests for deputations (with or without petitions) had been received for presentation to this Cabinet meeting.

5

ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL

AGREED that the following report be referred to the Council:

1. Report No.96 – A Draft Revised Allocations Scheme for Enfield for Allocating Social Rented Homes in Enfield

6

A DRAFT REVISED ALLOCATIONS SCHEME FOR ENFIELD FOR ALLOCATING SOCIAL RENTED HOMES IN ENFIELD

Councillor Ahmet Oykenar (Cabinet Member for Housing) introduced the report of the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (No.96) seeking approval of Enfield's new Allocations Scheme.

NOTED

1. that the report was due to be considered by full Council at its meeting on 7 November 2012;
2. the considerable amount of work which had been involved in bringing together a revised Allocations Scheme for Enfield. It was a challenging time and many changes had taken place. Councillor Oykenar expressed his thanks and appreciation to both the individual officers (Sally McTernan, Susan Sharry, Liz Smale, Neil Harris and Rita Foran) who had been closely involved in this area of work; and, to the Councillors involved in an advisory group with him in bringing this significant document together (Councillors Hamilton, Georgiou, Simon, Brett, Uzoanya and Ibrahim). Detailed discussions had taken place and a fair and transparent document had been produced which was now being presented for approval;
3. that Members' supported the revised Allocations Scheme as set out in the report.

Alternative Options Considered: NOTED the following alternative options considered:

1. Retain the current allocations scheme. Retaining the current allocations scheme was not an option because it was subject to legal challenges, complex to administer, lacks flexibility and was no longer able to meet local housing priorities.
2. Make minor amendments to the current allocations scheme. Minor adjustments to the current points scheme (which measures housing priority) could be made as well as strengthening the scheme to avoid legal challenges around housing assessments and use of the Choice Based Lettings System. The legal and policy context for allocating social rented housing has changed significantly meaning minor adjustments were not recommended.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

1. to approve Enfield's new Allocations Scheme;
2. to approve an on-going review of the Allocations Scheme during the first year of operation from the full implementation date with major changes reported back to Cabinet at the end of one year for a decision on whether to take to full Council;
3. to authorise the Cabinet Member for Housing to approve minor changes to the allocations Scheme to address practical issues revealed by the on-going review or made necessary due to further legislation or case law.

DECISION: Cabinet agreed to approve the creation of a single assessment and allocations function to improve the customer's experience which would be under the Council's control.

Reason: Enfield's current allocations scheme was subject to frequent legal challenge and no longer meets local priorities for allocating social rented housing in the Borough.

(Key decision – reference number 3413)

7

ISSUES ARISING FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL/SCRUTINY PANELS

NOTED that no items had been received for consideration at this meeting.

8

CABINET AGENDA PLANNING - FUTURE ITEMS

NOTED the provisional list of items scheduled for future Cabinet meetings.

9

NOTICE OF KEY DECISION LIST

NOTED that the next Notice of Key Decision List was due to be published on 30 November 2012, this would be effective from 1 January 2013.

10

MINUTES

AGREED that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 October 2012 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

11

ENFIELD STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FEEDBACK

NOTED that there were no written updates to be presented to this meeting.

12

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the next meeting of the Cabinet was scheduled to take place on Wednesday 14 November 2012 at 8.15pm.