

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

To: All Members of Council
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PUBLIC NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS MADE AT THE CABINET MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2023

This statement is produced in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

In accordance with the Scrutiny and Overview Procedure Rules the following decisions may be implemented from **1300 hours on 3 November 2023** unless referred to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee (after 13.00 hours on the 6th working day following the day on which the decision was taken [or decision notice published, if the decision notice is published later than the day of the decision]). The call-in procedure is appended to this notice.

The following apply to each decision listed below

Reasons for these decisions:

<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MId=3575>

Other options considered and rejected:

<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MId=3575>

Details of any consultation and representations received not included in the published report: None

Details of conflicts of Interest declared by any Cabinet Member: None

The Executive Mayor has made the executive decisions noted out below:

Agenda Item: 7 2024-28 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

Key Decision No.: 6623EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

- 1.1. Note the updated financial forecast and medium-term financial strategy assumptions set out in this report.

- 1.2. Note the positive dialogue with DLUHC to develop a further package of support in order to set a sustainable and balanced budget for the future years 2024-25 to 2027-28.
- 1.3. Approve a period of public engagement, as set out in Section 4, on the proposals for returning the Council to financial and operational sustainability including the savings and growth proposals set out in Appendices B and B1.
- 1.4. Note the outcome of the public engagement will be reported back to the Executive Mayor in Cabinet as part of the budget and council tax setting decision making.
- 1.5. Consider the outcome of the review of the Council Tax Support scheme at paragraphs 3.46 to 3.54 of this report.
- 1.6. To approve the recommendation to Full Council that the Council Tax Support scheme is not changed from that agreed by Full Council resolution on 1st March 2023.

Agenda Item: 8 PERIOD 4 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Key Decision No.: 6723EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED:

- 1.1. To note the General Fund revenue budget outturn is forecast to breakeven at Period 4, after the forecast utilisation of £63m capitalisation directions requested from DLUHC and £4.1m of the corporate risk contingency budget. It is not planned to utilise the risk contingency budget and directorates will work to bring the service directorate positions within budget.
- 1.2. To note the progress in MTFS savings achievement as set out in paragraph 4.82.
- 1.3. To note the work that has commenced on the Council's Transformation Programme as set out from paragraph 4.77.
- 1.4. To note the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue budget outturn is forecast to overspend by £3.8m.
- 1.5. To approve a net budget increase to the 2022-26 General Fund capital programme budget of £0.336m, owing to slippage, changes in grant funding

and the removal of the transformation budget (originally slipped from 2022-23), as set out in paragraph 4.97.

- 1.6. To approve the allocation of £4.000m reserves funding for transformation expenditure, as set out in paragraph 4.77.
- 1.7. To note the General Fund capital programme 2023-24 forecast underspend of £13.9m against the revised capital budget (to be agreed by Cabinet) of £144.7m.
- 1.8. To note the HRA capital programme 2023-24 forecast overspend of £4.1m against the revised capital budget of £33.2m.
- 1.9. To note the Council's historic legacy borrowing and debt burden continues to be critical to the sustainability of the Council's revenue budget. Dialogue with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) continues, and the Council is seeking further financial support from Government in regards to its level of indebtedness and balancing the budget to ensure it can deliver sustainable local government services.
- 1.10. To note that the Council continues to operate Spend Control Panels to ensure that tight financial control and assurance oversight are maintained.
- 1.11. To note that current forecasts are based on the best available information at the time and will be subject to review and change during the financial year.

Agenda Item: 9 REGINA ROAD PROJECT - SELECTION OF DELIVERY MODEL - PART A

Key Decision No.: 5823EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, the associated confidential part B report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED:

- 1.1. To consider delivery options and agree a direct delivery by the Council of:
 - 1.1.2 **Phase 1**, comprising an estimated 86 new Council homes at Regina Road (minimum of 78 replacement social rent and up to 8 leaseholder/freeholder replacements) and an estimated 8 new social rent homes at Malton House, to the estimated household sizes set out in the report. This delivery option enables the rebuilding of the social housing as soon as practicable; and

- 1.1.3 **Phase 2**, comprising an estimated 139 new Council homes (122 social rent and up to 17 leaseholder/freeholder replacements) to the housing needs of local residents, and a replacement onsite kindergarten/community facility. The detail of the Phase 2 option would then be reviewed and agreed by Cabinet early in 2024 before moving forward with Phase 2.
- 1.2. To note that the procurement of a main contractor will be progressed in line with delegations set out in the Annual Procurement Plan and will cover Phase 1 works, with the option of Phase 2 works.
- 1.3. To note that the procurement of a demolition contractor will be progressed in line with delegations set out in the Annual Procurement Plan and will cover the clearance works for Phases 1, 2 & 3.

**Agenda Item: 13 REOPENING PURLEY POOL AND LEISURE CENTRE:
THE REDEVELOPMENT PURLEY HIGH STREET
CARPARK AND LEISURE CENTRE PART A**

Key Decision No.: 7623EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, the associated confidential part B report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED:

- 1.1. Approve the draft Heads of Terms between Polaska Assets Limited (Polaska) and the Council (as set out in Part B appendix 1) relating to the proposed redevelopment by Polaska of Purley Leisure Centre and surrounding site, and with a view to negotiating and entering into a development agreement and property agreements.
- 1.2. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Sustainable Communities, Regeneration and Economic Recovery, in consultation with the Director for Commercial Investment and Capital, to finalise and enter into the Head of Terms (HoT) between the Council and Polaska.
- 1.3. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Sustainable Communities, Regeneration and Economic Recovery, in consultation with the Director for Commercial Investment and Capital, to finalise the drafting of the development agreement and new head lease between the Council and Polaska.
- 1.4. Agree that there will be a further report presented to the Executive Mayor in Cabinet seeking authority to enter into a development agreement and lease

agreements with Polaska for the redevelopment of Purley Leisure Centre and surrounding site, subject to further due diligence and planning permission.

- 1.5. To notes the opportunity to regenerate an important part of Purley town centre as set out in the Mayor's wider business plan (2022 – 2026).

Agenda Item: 14 CROYDON CORPORATE PARENTING & CARE LEAVERS STRATEGY

Key Decision No.: 7523EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED:

- 1.1. To approve Croydon's Corporate Parenting Strategy.
- 1.2. To approve Croydon's Care Leavers Strategy.
- 1.3. To note that the effectiveness of the new arrangements and measures of success will be reported through the Corporate Parenting Board and existing directorate performance management frameworks to ensure decisive actions are taken to address any issues.

Agenda Item: 15 CROYDON DEMENTIA STRATEGIC PLAN

Key Decision No.: 5023EM

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet

RESOLVED:

To agree the strategic plan and endorse the Council's commitment to the strategic and operational integration partnership.

Signed: Monitoring Officer

Notice date: 26 October 2023

Contact Officers: Michelle.Gerning@croydon.gov.uk

Scrutiny Referral/Call-in Procedure

1. The decisions may be implemented **1300 hours on 3 November 2023** unless referred to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee (after 13.00 hours on the 6th working day following the day on which the decision was taken [or decision notice published, if the decision notice is published later than the day of the decision]). The call-in procedure is appended to this notice..
2. The Council Solicitor shall refer the matter to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee if so requested by:-
 - i) the Chair and Vice Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and 1 member of that Committee; or for education matters the Chair, Vice Chair and 1 member of that Committee; or
 - ii) 20% of Council Members (14)
3. The referral shall be made on the approved pro-forma (*attached*) which should be submitted electronically or on paper to Democratic Services by the deadline stated in this notice. Verification of signatures may be by individual e-mail, fax or by post. A decision may only be subject to the referral process once.
4. The Call-In referral shall be completed giving:
 - i) The grounds for the referral
 - ii) The outcome desired
 - iii) Information required to assist the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to consider the referral
 - iv) The date and the signatures of the Councillors requesting the Call-In
5. The decision taker and the relevant Chief Officer(s) shall be notified of the referral who shall suspend implementation of the decision. The Chair of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee shall also be notified.
6. The referral shall be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee unless, in view of the Council Solicitor, this would cause undue delay. In such cases the Council Solicitor will consult with the decision taker and the Chair of Scrutiny and Overview to agree a date for an additional meeting. The Scrutiny & Overview Committee may only decide to consider a maximum of 3 referrals at any one meeting.
7. At the Scrutiny & Overview Committee meeting the referral will be considered by the Committee which shall determine how much time the Committee will give to the call in and how the item will be dealt with including whether or not it wishes to review the decision. If having considered the decision there are still concerns about the decision then the Committee may refer it back to Cabinet for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of the concerns. The Cabinet shall then reconsider the decision, amending the decision or not, before making a final decision.
8. The Scrutiny and Overview Committee may refer the decision to the Council if it considers that the decision is outside of the budget and policy framework of the

Council. In such circumstances, the provisions of Rule 7 of the Budget & Policy Framework Procedure Rules (Part 4C of the Constitution) apply. The Council may decide to take no further action in which case the decision may be implemented. If the Council objects to Cabinet's decision it can nullify the decision if it is outside the Policy Framework and/or inconsistent with the Budget.

9. If the Scrutiny and Overview Committee decides that no further action is necessary then the decision may be implemented.
10. If the Council determines that the decision was within the policy framework and consistent with the budget, the Council will refer any decision to which it objects together with its views on the decision, to the Cabinet. The Cabinet shall choose whether to either amend, withdraw or implement the original decision within 10 working days or at the next meeting of the Cabinet of the referral from the Council.
11. The responses of the decision-taker and the Council shall be notified to all Members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee once the Cabinet or Council has considered the matter and made a determination.
12. If either the Council or the Scrutiny and Overview Committee fails to meet in accordance with the Council calendar or in accordance with paragraph 6 above, then the decision may be implemented on the next working day after the meeting was scheduled or arranged to take place.
13. **URGENCY:** The referral procedure shall not apply in respect of urgent decisions. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the referral process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The record of the decision and the notice by which it is made public shall state if the decision is urgent and therefore not subject to the referral process. The Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee must agree that the decision proposed cannot be reasonably deferred and that it is urgent. In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair's consent shall be required. In the absence of both the Chair and Deputy Chair, the Mayor's consent shall be required. Any such urgent decisions must be reported at least annually in a report to Council from the Leader including the reasons for urgency.

Signed: Monitoring Officer

Notice Date: 26 October 2023

Contact Officers: michelle.gerning@croydon.gov.uk

PROFORMA

**REFERRAL OF A KEY DECISION TO THE
SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

For the attention of: Michelle Ossei-Gerning, Democratic Services & Scrutiny e-mail to Michelle.Gerning@croydon.gov.uk

Meeting:
Meeting Date:
Agenda Item No:

Reasons for referral:

- i) The decision is outside of the Policy Framework
- ii) The decision is inconsistent with the budget
- iii) The decision is inconsistent with another Council Policy
- iv) Other: Please specify:

The outcome desired:

Information required to assist the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to consider the referral:

Signed:

Date:

Member of _____ Committee