

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

To: All Member of Council
Croydon Council website
Access Croydon & Town Hall Reception

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS MADE BY CABINET ON 17 MAY 2021

This statement is produced in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. Please note, that as the decisions below are not Key Decisions, they are not subject to call-in.

Please Note: Decisions relating to Item 5 (Ongoing Review of Brick by Brick Croydon Ltd and Associated Matters Relating to the Company) and Item 6 (Libraries Public Consultation Phase Two - Options for Cost Savings in Libraries Provision in the Borough) have been called-in and will be considered by the Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 27 May 2021.

The following apply to the decisions listed below:

Reasons for these decisions: As set out in the reports
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MIId=2174>

Other options considered and rejected: As set out in the reports
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MIId=2174>

Details of Conflicts of Interest declared by the Decision Maker: None

Note of dispensation granted by the head of paid service in relation to a declared conflict of interest by that Decision Maker: None

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out below:

Decision Title: INVESTIGATION INTO CONDITIONS AT 1-87 REGINA ROAD, SOUTH NORWOOD AND THE HOUSING SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Fully accept the findings of the report of the independent investigation into the housing conditions at 1-87 Regina Road, a council-owned property in South Norwood - the investigation report is attached at Appendix 1 of the report;
2. Recognise that the housing conditions in the affected flats at Regina Road are completely unacceptable and reiterate the Leader's full apology to the tenants concerned;
3. Note the Council's response to the conditions at Regina Road: rehousing the tenants affected and responding to other urgent issues identified in the report;
4. Note the Council's steps to identify whether there are any issues at other council-owned high-rise blocks of flats, and the steps to resolve any problems identified;
5. Adopt the Council's initial action plan for the housing service;
6. Note that a wider review of the Council's housing services, including delivery of the repairs service, will be conducted and will consider how the Council fully involves its tenants and leaseholders, both in terms of responding to issues raised and in the co-design and co-delivery of services;
7. Note the exercise of delegated authority by the Council's Chief Executive under Part 4J 3.3 paragraph 2 of the council's Constitution to appoint an Interim Executive Director of Housing for an initial period of six months to bring additional capacity to provide new leadership and direction for the housing service, conduct a review of the wider housing service, and lead the development and implementation of a longer-term Housing Improvement Plan for the service. This will be reviewed after six months by the Appointments Committee in accordance with the council's Constitution.
8. Agree to the establishment of an independently-chaired Housing Improvement Board, the membership of which will include council tenants and leaseholders, and independent housing experts, to oversee the development and implementation of the Housing Improvement Plan;
9. Delegate authority to the Interim Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Homes to agree the final membership and constitution of the Housing Improvement Board together with its Terms of Reference;
10. Note that, in accordance with their delegated authority, the Chief Executive will consider, in consultation with the Director of Human Resources, what, if any, investigation is required to be undertaken in accordance with its agreed staff policies and procedures;
11. Fully welcome the recommendations of the Social Housing White Paper 'The Charter for Social Housing Residents', in particular the focus on the

importance of treating residents with respect and ensuring the voices of tenants and leaseholders are heard;

12. Note that the report of the investigation and the Council's initial action plan will be shared with the Tenants and Leaseholders Panel, Housing Scrutiny Panel, Scrutiny and Overview Committee, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), Croydon's Improvement and Assurance Panel, the Regulator of Social Housing and the Local Government Association; and
13. Note that a report will be made to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to engage its members on the initial action plan, progress in implementation and developing the Housing Improvement Plan.

Decision Title: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - PERIOD 11

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Note the net projected general fund financial overspend of **£67.2m** for the full year as at the end of Month 11, February 2021 which includes all projected COVID-19 related expenditure and income of **£40.9m**, a net decrease of **£1.9m** from Period 10, see section 3 of the report.
2. Note that a number of risks may materialise which have been previously reported which would see the variance increase. These include dividends and interest receivable from Brick By Brick (both historic accrued and in-year expectations) of **£20.6m**, and pending external audit verification of assumptions around 2019/20 accounting treatment of MRP and Transformation funding that could impact by **£6.0m**. Should all these risks which total **£26.6m** materialise, which is unlikely, the impact on the current forecast overspend of **£67.2m** is an increased overspend to **£93.8m**, with draft general fund reserves of just **£7.4m**.
3. Note, the above figures are predicated on forecasts from Month 10 to the year end and therefore could be subject to change. Forecasts are made based on the best available information at the time.
4. Note that the Spending Control Panel which was set up at the beginning of November 2020 continues to meet on a daily basis. Further details on the outputs of the SCP is provided within section 5 of the report.
5. Note that ELT are to continue to take further immediate action to mitigate spend during the remainder of the financial year, and work with their departments to ensure forecast figures are thoroughly reviewed.

Decision Title: FEES & CHARGES 2021/22

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. To approve the fees and charges set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
2. Note that the charging policy for Adult Social Care has been amended with effect from 12 April 2021 under delegated authority as set out in paragraph 3.13 of the report;
3. To note that a report will be brought to Full Council reviewing the process and delegations for setting fees and charges;
4. To note that work is being undertaken to reconfigure the way fees and charges are presented on the council website so that they are presented in a user-friendly way that ensures they are easy to find in relation to each area of business and that enables customers to progress transactions easily;
5. To note that further increases to fees and charges will be brought forward for decision as proposals are developed; and
6. To have due regard to the equalities impact assessment at Appendix 2 of the report in making the decisions set out in these recommendations.

Decision Title: CROYDON RENEWAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Agree the proposals for a series of resident webinars to provide information on the Croydon Renewal improvement plan, the actions being taken by the Council, and to answer questions and receive feedback from residents;
2. Note that a review is currently underway in relation to the Council's Get Involved platform, which supports consultation and engagement with residents;

3. Establish a Citizens e-Panel as detailed in paragraphs 5.10 - 5.15 of the report to form a representatives and retained sample of residents to inform Council decision making as part of the Croydon Renewal Plan; and
4. Authorise the Interim Chief Executive to finalise the arrangements for a Citizens e-Panel, including terms of reference and membership, and undertake Equality Impact Assessment and complete a Data Protection Impact Assessment, prior to implementation, as necessary.

Decision Title: STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To receive the recommendations arising from meeting of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee held on 30 March 2021 and the Children & Young People Sub-Committee held on 20 April 2021, and to provide a substantive response within two months (i.e. at the next available Cabinet meeting on **5 July 2021**).

Decision Title: STAGE 2: RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY & OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2021

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To approve the response and action plans attached to the report at Appendix A and that these be reported to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committees.

Decision Title: INVESTING IN OUR BOROUGH

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 Cabinet

RESOLVED: To note

1. The contracts between £500,000 and £5,000,000 anticipated to be awarded under delegated authority from the Leader by the nominated Cabinet Member,

in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and Financial Governance and with the Leader in certain circumstances, before the next meeting of Cabinet, as set out in section 5.1.1 of the report; and

2. The list of delegated award decisions made by the Director of Commissioning and Procurement, between 17/03/2021 – 06/04/2021, as set out in section 5.1.2 of the report.

Signed: Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Notice date: 25 May 2021