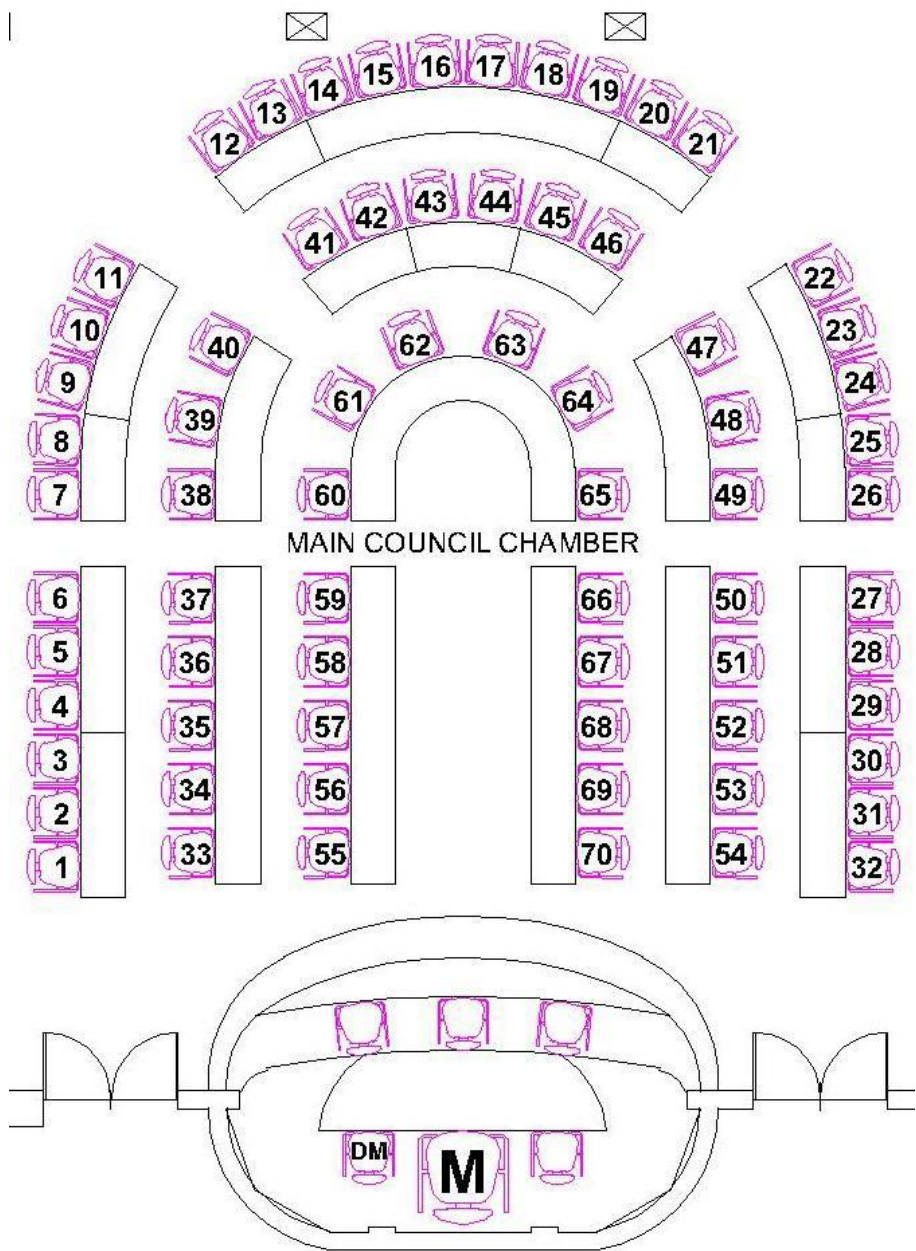




**ANNUAL COUNCIL  
AGENDA**

for the meeting  
on  
6 July 2020 at  
6.30 pm

1. Callton Young
2. Joy Prince
3. Stephen Mann
4. Toni Letts
5. Andrew Pelling
6. Pat Clouder
7. Pat Ryan
8. Caragh Skipper
9. Mary Croos
10. Robert Canning
11. Leila Ben-Hassel
12. Bernadette Khan
13. Sherwan Chowdhury
14. Jerry Fitzpatrick
15.
16.
17. Oni Oviri
18. Steve Hollands
19. Ian Parker
20. Michael Neal
21. Luke Clancy
22. Jan Buttinger
23. Sue Bennett
24. Jeet Bains
25. Stuart Millson
26. Andy Stranack
27. Helen Redfern
28. Simon Brew
29. Gareth Streeter
30. Margaret Bird
31. Scott Roche
32. Richard Chatterjee
33. Shafi Khan
34. David Wood
35. Nina Degrads
36. Patricia Hay-Justice
37. Louisa Woodley
38. Clive Fraser
39. Patsy Cummings
40. Sean Fitzsimons
41. Felicity Flynn
42. Janet Campbell
43. Karen Jewitt
44. Chris Clark
45. Jamie Audsley
46. Mohammed Ali
47. Badsha Quadir
48. Robert Ward
49. Steve O'Connell
50. Helen Pollard
51. Yvette Hopley
52. Mario Creatura
53. Vidhi Mohan
54. Simon Hoar
55. Alisa Flemming



56. Hamida Ali
57. Stuart Collins
58. Alison Butler
59. Tony Newman
60. Simon Hall
61. Oliver Lewis
62. Jane Avis
63. Manju Shahul-Hameed
64. Paul Scott
65. Stuart King
66. Tim Pollard
67. Jason Cummings
68. Lynne Hale
69. Maria Gatland
70. Jason Perry
Notes etc.
<b>M</b> – Mayor Councillor Humayun Kabir
<b>DM</b> – Deputy Mayor – Councillor Maddie Henson
Please note that the numbers relate to microphone numbers.
December 2019

To: To All Members of the Council

Date: 26 June 2020

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** which you are hereby summoned to attend, will be held on **Monday, 6 July 2020 at 6.30 pm**. This meeting will be held remotely. Members of Council will be sent a link to remotely attend the meeting in due course.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Members of the public are welcome to remotely attend this meeting via the following web link: <http://webcasting.croydon.gov.uk/meetings/9949>

JACQUELINE HARRIS BAKER  
Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer  
London Borough of Croydon  
Bernard Weatherill House  
8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

Annette Wiles 020 872 6000 x64877  
annette.wiles@croydon.gov.uk  
[www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings)  
26 June 2020

The agenda papers for all Council meetings are available on the Council website [www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings)

If you require any assistance, please contact officer as detailed above.

## **AGENDA – PART A**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence from any Members.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 34)**

To approve the minutes of the Council and Extraordinary Council meetings held on 2 March 2020 as an accurate record.

**3. Disclosure of Interests**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and the statutory provisions of the Localism Act, Members and co-opted Members of the Council are reminded that it is a requirement to register disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) and gifts and hospitality to the value of which exceeds £50 or multiple gifts and/or instances of hospitality with a cumulative value of £50 or more when received from a single donor within a rolling twelve month period. In addition, Members and co-opted Members are reminded that unless their disclosable pecuniary interest is registered on the register of interests or is the subject of a pending notification to the Monitoring Officer, they are required to disclose those disclosable pecuniary interests at the meeting. This should be done by completing the Disclosure of Interest form and handing it to the Democratic Services representative at the start of the meeting. The Chair will then invite Members to make their disclosure orally at the commencement of Agenda item 3. Completed disclosure forms will be provided to the Monitoring Officer for inclusion on the Register of Members' Interests.

**4. Urgent Business (if any)**

To receive notice of any business not on the agenda which in the opinion of the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

**5. Vote of Thanks**

To pass a vote of thanks to The Mayor in the following terms:

- a) The Members of Council tender their grateful thanks to The Worshipful, The Mayor, Councillor Humayun Kabir, for the courteous and efficient manner in which he presided over the Council's deliberations during the past year;
- b) The Members of Council record their sincere appreciation of the

dignified manner in which Councillor Humayun Kabir has carried out the traditional duties of the office of Mayor, of the support and encouragement which he and his Consort, Mrs Rahena Chowdhury Kabir, have given to local organisations and of the prominent part they have taken in the social life of the Borough during the Mayor's period of office; and

- c) That this resolution be sealed and presented to the Mayor at the Annual Council Meeting in a suitable form.

**6. Election of the Mayor**

To elect the Mayor for the Council Year 2020/21 and note the appointment of the Deputy Mayor.

**7. Political Balance of the Council and Composition of Committees**  
(Pages 35 - 40)

To approve the report of the Council Solicitor & Monitoring Officer.

Under Section 15(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it is the duty of the Council at its Annual Meeting to review the representation of different political groups on bodies appointed by the Council.

**8. Appointments and Remote Attendance at Council Meetings** (Pages 41 - 70)

To consider a report of the Council Solicitor & Monitoring Officer that details appointments in the associated Blue and Pink Schedules and to note the changes made to the Constitution regarding remote attendance at Council meetings.

**9. Resolution to Extend 6 Month Rule** (Pages 71 - 74)

To consider the report of the Council Solicitor & Monitoring Officer proposing a resolution to extend the 6 month rule.

**10. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The following motion is to be moved and seconded where it is proposed to exclude the press and public from the remainder of a meeting:

“That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of

business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.”

## **PART B**

## Budget Council

Meeting held on Monday, 2 March 2020 at 6.30 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX

### MINUTES

**Present:** Councillor Maddie Henson (Vice-Chair);

Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale, Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack, Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young

**Apologies:** Councillor Humayun Kabir, Mary Croos, Nina Degrads, Steve Hollands and Steve O'Connell

### PART A

82/20 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 January 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

83/20 **Disclosure of Interests**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interests. Members confirmed their disclosure of interest forms were accurate and up-to-date.

84/20 **Urgent Business (if any)**

There was no urgent business.

85/20 **Announcements**

## **Madam Deputy Mayor**

Madam Deputy Mayor, Councillor Henson, informed Council she was deputising in the absence of the Mayor, Councillor Kabir. The forthcoming *Our Croydon* concert, happening at 6pm on Wednesday 11 March 2020 at the Fairfield Halls, was highlighted. Tickets were available from the venue. Madam Deputy Mayor congratulated Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College on being the runner-up in the Jack Petchey Perfect Pitch Awards.

## **The Leader**

Madam Deputy Mayor, invited the Leader, Councillor Newman to make his announcements. The Leader informed Council that the *Croydon Partnership* had issued a statement earlier in the day regarding the development of the Whitgift Centre and called for the reaffirmation of the commitment to the development to be recorded in the minutes. The Leader described how the development was subject to on-going review with the partners remaining committed to the delivery of a dynamic town centre. This was good news for Croydon during an era of *Brexit* and retail change.

The Leader expressed his personal thanks to Paula Murray, Creative Director, for her work on the *London Borough of Culture* bid before giving way to Councillor Lewis, the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport to comment further. The Cabinet Member informed Council that on 11 February 2020, Croydon has been named as the *London Borough of Culture 2023*. Pride in having lead the bidding team was expressed and thanks given to Paula Murray and the other members of her culture team (Chetna Kapacee, Paul Hudson, Marcus Harris and Marie Rose-Tulley). Councillor Lewis also thanked the cultural partners from across the Borough that had supported the bid and without whom the bid would not have been successful. The *London Borough of Culture* trophy was presented to Paula Murray with Madam Deputy Mayor expressing her own thanks to all those involved.

86/20

## **Council Tax and Budget**

### **Questions to the Leader**

Madam Deputy Mayor explained that the Council Tax and budget item would commence with questions to the Leader, Councillor Newman, for a total of 15 minutes.

The Leader of the Opposition, **Councillor Tim Pollard**, noted the funding in the budget for *Brick By Brick* for this and future years. Clarification was sought on how it was possible to be confident that the budget was on a safe footing when the detail of the *Brick By Brick* funding remained confidential for reasons of commercial confidentiality.



In response, the Leader stated that he would not be proposing the budget if he was not confident in it and those who had provided advice on it. It was stressed that Councillor Tim Pollard had access to the budget documentation and that whilst this might not give him all the information he wanted a judgement had to be made whether to trust advice from officials.

In his supplementary question, Councillor Tim Pollard described how the Council was putting all its eggs in a secretive basket. It was noted that the Council was the sole *Brick By Brick* shareholder meaning that with no other party involved in the scheme no one else had knowledge of its operation. The Leader stressed that *Brick By Brick* had been subject to extensive scrutiny including at Cabinet and through the Scrutiny and Overview Committee. It was also noted that the support for *Brick By Brick* in the budget was the same as in 2019/20 and that the Opposition had voted in support of this.

**Councillor Chowdhury** gave thanks to the Leader and his team for the budget and asked how this would be fully resources if further grant cuts were made by Government.

In response, the Leader agreed the Government's budget, anticipated on 11 March 2020, needed to address the social care funding crisis. The Leader described how the Council's budget was being set against a backdrop of uncertainty which had grown since the General Election.

Councillor Chowdhury took the opportunity of his supplementary question to compliment Councillor Hall, the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources, on his managing of the Council's budget. Councillor Chowdhury expressed his concerns regarding the management of the Home Office, the Council not being given sufficient funding by Government, the influence of the Prime Minister's special adviser and the imminent impact of *Brexit*. The Leader agreed that all these factors were feeding into national uncertainty and that this was being equally felt by leaders of Conservative Councils.

**Councillor Millson** noted that there was around £800m in the revenue budget and that this gave the Council enormous power to change lives. It was asked if the Leader applauded authorities, including Labour authorities that were doing less with more.

In response, the Leader described how he applauded the efforts of other councils and described the work being done by Croydon including initiatives such as the refurbishment of Fairfield Halls. It was stressed that all councils were operating against the toughest financial backdrop ever. The Leader stressed the impact of the crisis in Adult Social Care funding despite the implementation of innovative approaches to local service delivery such as the *One Croydon Alliance*.

Councillor Millson took the opportunity of his supplementary question to state that the Leader was again not taking responsibility but expecting others to intercede. Councillor Millson called on the Leader to be ambitious and to take responsibility for Croydon. It was noted that the Opposition could not take

responsibility for another two years, until the next London local elections in May 2022. It was suggested that there were backbench Labour Councillors seeking to take over the responsibility from the Leader. In response, the Leader reminded Councillor Millson that he was the one who had been out of step with his own party during the previous budget as he had not voted with his Group to support the budget. The Leader called on Councillor Millson to take responsibility and to vote for something that means something and not oppose his own side.

**Councillor Audsley** noted the uncertainty of the current financial environment, that this would benefit big business and called on the Leader to offer reassurance.

In response, the Leader described the importance of getting residents more involved in the democratic process beyond the electoral cycle. The Citizens' Assembly, would look at what action should be taken to address the climate emergency, was given as an example of greater involvement. The aspiration to get residents involved in the housing agenda was expressed

In his supplementary question, Councillor Audsley welcomed the greater involvement of residents and asked if such approaches would be expanded to include the Council's budget. The Leader expressed his support for this idea and explained how there was a need for financial planning years into the future which meant working in partnership with residents to understand and anticipate long term demand for services. It was described how the Council wanted to know about residents' priorities and to offer the opportunity for them to shape the future of their town.

With time remaining for questions to the Leader, Madam Deputy Mayor asked if there were any Opposition Members with additional questions. **Councillor Parker** was called by Madam Deputy Mayor and asked the Leader about the *Wigan Deal* and how this could provide benefit to Croydon.

In response the Leader described how residents could benefit from what was happening in Croydon. Procurement strategies had been developed to make it easier for local companies to bid. The Council had also committed to being a *London Living Wage* employer. The Leader agreed that despite a backdrop of reduced funding, the Council was still a considerable power, was working with local companies and looking at what had happened elsewhere.

### **Questions to the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources**

With the end of the time allocated for questions to the Leader, Madam Deputy Mayor signalled that she was moving on to questions to Councillor Hall, the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources.

**Councillor Jason Cummings** asked for clarification regarding the commitment made to replenish reserves by £5m. It was highlighted that a similar promise had been made in previous years. It was asked whether this commitment had been achieved in previous years.

In response, Councillor Hall noted that the reserves had been replenished from the collection of funds in April 2019. This had been highlighted in the quarterly financial reports made throughout the financial year.

In his supplementary question, Councillor Jason Cummings highlighted that the commitment had been made to replenish the reserves by £20m but only £12m had been achieved leaving an £8m variance. On which basis, it was questioned whether trust should be placed in the same commitment made in the budget for 2020/2021. In response, Councillor Hall highlighted the distinction between different reserve pots. The general fund reserves had been maintained at the same level for six years. Earmarked reserves were different and, as happened under the Conservative Administration, were used from year to year and then replenished.

**Councillor Jewitt** noted that Croydon had many of the same characteristics of an inner London Borough. Councillor Hall was asked to clarify what would be the impact on the Borough's finances of being funded as an inner London Borough.

In response Councillor Hall explained that this had been an ongoing issue for the Borough under governments of all colours. However, this situation had deteriorated in 2010 with the freezing by Government of the way local government grants were calculated. As a result these did not recognise changes to ongoing needs. As a result, if Croydon were funded at the average rate of an inner London Borough it would be £60m better off per annum.

**Councillor Neal** noted that the Council budget was overspent nearly every year and asked what was going to be different in 2020/21.

In response, Councillor Hall described how each year the budget was based on a set of assumptions. These assumptions were best estimates made at the time of budget setting. The Cabinet Member went on to explain that every year, the demand for services massively exceeded the working estimates. The budget setting process was also unable to account for Government action taken in-year. For example, changes to statutory requirements on homelessness affecting demand for services in-year. Councillor Hall also reminded Councillor Neal of the effect of the Government's underfunding of services for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.

Councillor Neal used the opportunity of his supplementary question to state that the Cabinet Member was again blaming the Government but that this was his budget. A clear yes or no response was requested to the question of whether the Council would be overspent in the first quarter of the 2020/2021 financial year. In response, Councillor Hall reiterated that the budget was based on a best estimate and view of circumstances. Any overspend was often as a result of factors that could not be predicted at the time of budget setting. Councillor Hall described budget setting as a very detailed process but that this was subject to real risks which were highlighted during every budget process. It was noted that the Section 151 Officer had highlighted

these risk at Cabinet when the budget had been previously discussed. Pressures were reflected in the budget whilst it was noted all would be done within the power of the Council to limit and address their impact in-year.

**Councillor Fitzsimons** noted the numerous elections that had been conducted since 2015, including a referendum, three General Elections, a Local Election and a European Election. Councillor Fitzsimons thought that these elections would have come at a cost and asked what the cost of a special election or referendum would be to Croydon Council Tax payers.

In response, Councillor Hall stated that he had sought clarification on this point from officers and had been informed that a referendum would cost in excess of £1m.

In his supplementary question, Councillor Fitzsimons asked if therefore holding a special election or referendum would have a detrimental impact on the Council budget. In response, Councillor Hall explained that based on the costs of an average Adult Social Care package, a special election or referendum would leave 100 plus vulnerable residents without care and would result in services being compromised.

With time remaining for questions to the Leader, Madam Deputy Mayor asked if there were any Opposition Members with an additional question. **Councillor Chatterjee** was called by Madam Deputy Mayor and asked the Cabinet Member about the funding allocation for Health and Wellbeing services. It was noted that despite data on demand and funding needs, the previous budget allocation for this service area had not been sufficient. Councillor Hall was therefore asked if he expected the budget for this service area to be achieved.

In response, Councillor Hall stressed that the estimates used in setting the Health and Wellbeing budget were based on the best possible information whilst being conscious of the pressures on the 2019/2020 budget. It was explained that this was as a result of a number of external factors having a detrimental impact. There had been an increase in the amount of growth allocated to this budget area to mitigate the effect.

In his supplementary question, Councillor Neal asked who would be held accountable if this budget did end-up overspent. Councillor Hall noted the routine quarterly financial reports provided to Cabinet which thoroughly set out any issues and their causes. However, the Cabinet Member also stressed the need to draw a distinction between the budget being overspent and being inappropriately spent; it was not the case that those receiving care packages did not deserve them. Indeed if this was the case, this would be quite serious and would require a different response. Councillor Hall reiterated that the Health and Wellbeing budget was set based on best estimates. There was a clear action plan in place to achieve savings within the budget and this action plan was being very closely monitored.

With further time still remaining for questions to the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources, Madam Deputy Mayor called forward **Councillor**

**Pelling** who highlighted that under the Labour Administration the Pension Fund had moved from 66% to 86% funded. The good management of the Fund was highlighted including moving out of equities into cash and the bond market before set-backs came into effect.

In response, Councillor Hall stated that it was not surprising this had not been mentioned by the Opposition as it had not made as much progress with the Fund during its time in power. Councillor Hall described how the Fund was a vital asset as it would be used to pay staff and former staff their pensions. The good management of the Fund would ensure that staff confidence in this would rise. It also meant that the Council's contributions would decline to the benefit of the budget.

### **Scrutiny report**

With the end of the time allocated for questions to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Madam Deputy Mayor explained that following the budget scrutiny meeting, there was an opportunity for Council to question the Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee, Councillor Fitzsimons, on the scrutiny budget report. Councillor Fitzsimons used the opportunity of his announcements to highlight how there had been scrutiny of the budget proposals and financial decisions. For example, funding for *Brick By Brick*. Overall this had shown that demand for services was outweighing the resources available to provide them. The Chair also described how it was accepted cross party that Croydon was not receiving a fair share of funding compared to other Boroughs with similar characteristics. As a result, scrutiny had found that strong financial controls were needed. Scrutiny would be focusing on assessing the processes used to achieve the financial control needed.

Madam Deputy Mayor asked if there was a Councillor with a question for the Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Commission but none was forthcoming.

### **Council Tax debate**

Madam Deputy Mayor introduced the start of the Council Tax debate and invited the Leader, **Councillor Newman** to speak who welcomed the work of scrutiny and the turnaround of the Pension Fund at the same time as it had moved away from fossil fuel investments.

The Leader highlighted that the impact of increasing a regressive tax was not underestimated. It was acknowledged that the Council Tax was often the largest bill faced by many residents. However, the increase was built into the Government's spending calculations. The assumption of this increase was not a sustainable way to go forward. The Leader stressed that there must be a better way to move forward.

The awaited *Ofsted* judgement would demonstrate the importance of the growth in the budget for Children's Service. The Leader described how it was only by having a sustainable budget that it was possible to deliver services for

residents including tree planting and bringing residential care homes back in-house. It was explained how service transformation was being used to achieve a sustainable budget. The examples of the health alliance and the *South London Waste Partnership* were given. The Leader detailed how such initiatives had allowed the Council to invest in the New Addington Leisure Centre, the *Legacy Youth Zone* and the provision of more affordable homes.

The ongoing £9m deficit in the Council's budget because of the Government's underfunding of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) was highlighted as needing to change and that the Council would continue to lobby Government.

The Leader described how it was the intention to have a much wider consultation with the public on spending priorities. This would be achieved through a localities based approach with an increasing focus on prevention. However, the Leader expressed a note of caution, stating that there was only so much that could be done if the Council's long term finances were not addressed. It was stressed that this budget saw the Council starting to plan for the next three years and that a longer term approach would enable the Council to be ready to respond to issues as they arose. The Leader described the difficulty of delivering services against the backdrop of the lowest ever local authority settlement. It was stressed that this was the very best budget in the circumstances but that if Croydon was funded by the average amount given to inner London Boroughs with the same characteristics, the Borough would have received at least an additional £30m.

The Leader commended the budget to Council. Councillor Hall seconded the Council Tax and budget motion and reserved the right to speak.

The Leader of the Opposition, **Councillor Tim Pollard**, thanked the Director of Finance, Investment and Risk and other officers for their work in preparing the budget acknowledging the level of technical knowledge involved. It was noted that the Administration blamed everything bad in finance on the Government or the prevailing financial climate. However, it was highlighted that the budget made no mention of seeking other sources of funding. Nor was there any mention of funding increases for example through the Special Needs Grant or the Dedicated Schools Grant.

It was acknowledged that it was not right that the situation with UASC meant that Croydon was funding a national service. Councillor Tim Pollard called for this to be addressed by the Government.

The significant annual overspend was stressed. It was described how the reduction in the overspend between quarters 2 and 3 in the 2019-2020 financial year had been addressed through additional borrowing; this could not have been met through earmarked reserves as these had been depleted. The costs of repayments on borrowing were noted. Councillor Tim Pollard highlighted that the budget assumed £6m funding from the NHS but that this was not properly committed meaning that the budget might be £6m overspent from the outset.

It was noted that the *Growth Zone* had been scaled back significantly and that the Administration had failed to deliver the promised town centre regeneration. Rather the focus was on provision of housing but this failed to provide the infrastructure development that was needed to support Croydon's growing population. It was described how information on *Brick By Brick* was being 'squirreled away' on the basis of it being commercially sensitive. Its refurbishment of Fairfield Hall had been overspent with the suspicion that other *Brick By Brick* developments had and would suffer the same fate.

Councillor Tim Pollard commented on the increase in the Greater London Authority budget. It was highlighted how this was being described as being about increasing the number of police officers at the same time as the size and cost of the administration had grown to an all-time high and knife crime was out of control. The Mayor of London was called on to cut down on his own waste and to put the needed police officers in place quickly.

In conclusion, Councillor Tim Pollard described how he felt obliged to support the budget although he considered parts of it woeful and did so with a heavy heart. It was described how the Opposition would work hard to scrutinise the budget to ensure that the Administration stuck to its promises.

**Councillor Butler**, the Cabinet Member for Homes & Gateway Services, shared the findings of a study that had found the growth in life expectancy had stalled and for some women had reversed. Also, that the poverty gap was wider than it had been for a long time. Factors such as these made the budget important. Rising child poverty, the decline in education funding, the increase in zero hour contracts and families with insufficient money using food banks all showed that austerity was casting a long shadow. It was the Council, dealing with cuts to its own funding that had been left to pick-up the pieces. This was being done through investment in *Gateway Services* to provide support to residents. Councillor Butler congratulated *Gateway* officers for the launch of the new food stop. It was described how the budget continued to support investment in new homes through *Brick By Brick* developments, purchasing of affordable homes and leasing of others. It was highlighted that the budget would allow for a 400 increase in the number of new homes all of which would be safe, secure and affordable. Those living in the private rented sector would also be supported by the Council. Rents were rising too fast to be affordable and there were too many who were living in cold and unsafe properties. It was stressed that the Council would step in when tenants' rights were abused; this Council and the budget would do all it could to protect residents.

**Councillor Hopley** gave her thanks to officers for their work on the budget. Growth in Government investment was highlighted for example through the Social Care Budget, Winter Pressures Grant, the Public Health Grant that was expected to increase and homeless support monies. However, that this was not acknowledged by the Administration. Councillor Hopley called on the Administration to do more to support residents in the south of the Borough where life expectancy was longer and more support was needed. As a result

the *Localities Programme* needed to be delivered quickly. The collaboration with health partners assumed in the budget was described as unrealistic and that the promise to bring the budget under control was similarly unrealistic as proved by the handling of the budget in previous years.

**Councillor Flemming**, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, described how Croydon was the London Borough with the largest number of young people and that it prided itself on leading the way on it being the best Borough for them to live in. It was explained how good progress was being made with the quality of children's social care with the outcome of the *Ofsted* inspection awaited. Investment into business support was driving improvement with the work of supporting social workers vital. This was contrasted with Conservative austerity that had led to greater family referrals. The Administration had responded by increasing investment. It was ambitious for young people. This was demonstrated by the development of the *Legacy Youth Zone* and the funding of free annual memberships for those in care to use the facility. The Administration cared about making young people's lives better and wanted to give them the opportunities for making their own lives better. Other initiatives that demonstrated the commitment to young people were detailed including the *Young Mayor* and the award winning *Chose Your Future* campaign. Important steps were being taken with local organisations to support young people to address mental health issues. The Education Estates Strategy had resulted in five new schools with increased primary and SEN places. All this investment in young people was the reason why the Cabinet Member was proud to support the budget.

**Councillor Hoar** described how this was another budget papering over the cracks. The Administration had been failing young people for years. It had built a school on the Purley Way, had a concrete the lot policy and was mounting an attack on motorists to increase enforcement income. Councillor Hoar stressed that Croydon had the highest level of borrowing of all London Boroughs and was paying £40m in interest payments. The *Growth Zone* had seen a reduction in transport and infrastructure. The Administration was described as providing excuses and not promises and called for it to take responsibility for its failures.

**Councillor Hamida Ali**, the Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon and Communities commended the achievement of a balance budget in the toughest of times for local government. It was noted that the *Local Government Association* had calculated that there was an £8b funding gap in Adult Social Care whilst predictably the Opposition focused on increases in small grants. It was highlighted that these increases did not take inflation into account. The Cabinet Member described how the Mayor of London was giving additional funding to Croydon for example through the *Young London Fund* and funding for violence reduction and to address high risk domestic violence. The Mayor was acknowledged as doing all he could with the Government being called on to do more. Councillor Hamida Ali stressed how the Administration was working to achieve its manifesto commitments for example by doing more to support Croydon's voluntary sector; three year funding



agreements were starting to be put in place. In the absence of leadership by the Government, the Administration was delivering.

**Councillor Helen Pollard** stated that the budget laid bare the failures of the Administration as demonstrated by the loss of Westfield, being overspent on the Fairfield Halls development and loss of the *Growth Zone*. The Administration was described as being unable to protect the public services on which residents relied and that residents could not get the Administration to listen to them on green spaces or bins being emptied. It was stated that the Administration had neglected the bigger picture and that it had not focused on regeneration to the detriment of jobs, homes and investment. The Borough's parks were described as being in a state of neglect and needing investment whilst promised Section 106 monies had not materialised. Whilst the culture budget was being maintained there was concern the the lack of investment in other areas such as the public realm would have an impact on the Borough's cultural aspirations. It was highlighted that the Administration was unable to control budgets as demonstrated by the Fairfield Halls refurbishment. It was questioned how many other *Brick By Brick* schemes had similar additional costs. As a result, the Administration was described as having lost control of key areas of its budget. It was emphasised that it was not acceptable to fritter away money on *Brick By Brick*, to build on green spaces or to neglect the Borough's parks.

**Councillor Lewis**, the Cabinet Member Culture, Leisure and Sport described his pride in having led the team that delivered the *London Borough of Culture 2023* and again expressed this thanks to the officers involved in the winning bid. It was described how culture was at the heart of the Administration's regeneration strategy. This was contrasted with the Opposition's approach when it was in power; it had sold Croydon's Riesco art collection, closed libraries and got rid of the culture team. This was described as a dark legacy whilst the Administration had put time and effort into developing a cultural network and the relationships that underpinned this. The *London Borough of Culture* award showed how it was right to invest in cultural opportunities and that this brought a big benefit to the whole Borough. Councillor Lewis described how it was a testament to the Administration that it had protected services and invested in culture; residents had been hurt by austerity and needed culture to help heal. The Cabinet Member expressed his support for the budget because it recognised the importance of culture.

**Councillor Creatura** quoted the *Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy* that in May 2019 had described Croydon as being the fifth worst authority in the country for the spending of its reserves position. The Council's auditors, *Grant Thornton*, had stated that Croydon's reserves position remained low compared to other London Boroughs. This was true even compared to other London Boroughs with similar demographics and pressures. As a result, Councillor Creatura described Croydon as just being badly run. Figures from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government highlighted the extent of the Council's long term borrowing. The Administration was described as having no proper plans to fix the Council's budget position, rather it was raising taxes on families, young people, the

elderly and vulnerable. Councillor Creatura explained how this would be acceptable if the Administration was improving services but that this wasn't the case. It was also failing to rein in spending on its vanity projects. It was warned that residents were watching.

**Councillor Patsy Cummings** stated that the budget was always difficult and that the Council Tax was a large charge on households at a time when the impact of austerity was being felt by many, especially women and those with protected characteristics. However, the Council had also been subject to Government funding cuts of 70% which meant there were difficult choices to be made. The importance of making a financial commitment to the town and its people was stressed; the Council was making a real change for those who made Croydon their own. It was described how the Council was reducing the gender, disability and BAEM (Black, Asian and Ethnic Minorities) pay gap. Councillor Patsy Cummings shared that she was proud of the regeneration taking place in the Borough. Whilst any increase in the Council Tax charge would affect residents, the Council should continue to invest. The increase in the Council Tax was equivalent to an extra 22p a week for a Band D property which would be used investment in police officers and schemes such as out of school activities. Councillor Patsy Cummings called for commitment to be shown across both side of the Chamber to truly invest in Croydon.

**Councillor Jason Cummings** gave his thanks to the Director for Finance, Investment and Risk and the rest of the finance team for their work on the budget. It was described how the Council was facing some dangerous years; reserves were low, debt was at the highest level it had ever been and the Administration had a poor record of maintaining its budget. Whilst the Administration talked of a balanced budget, it would not be balanced at the end of the financial year. A number of firsts were stressed; this was the highest ever level of Council Tax for the worst ever adherence to the budget with the highest level of debt and the highest level of increase to Cabinet Member allowances. Whilst the Administration promised to deal with the overspend it was anticipated that something would be sold and the underlying budget issues not addressed. It was described how socialism meant running out of other people's green spaces to spend. However, Councillor Jason Cummings stated he would vote for the budget and wait to see whether the budget was being met at the end of Quarter 1.

**Councillor Hall** noted that this was his sixth budget and that Government austerity was continuing if at a slower pace. Whilst there had been some increase in the Dedicated Schools Grant this had not really impacted on the reductions overall. It was highlighted that the Home Office continued in its failure to fund UASC. The Cabinet Member described how in response it would be easy to cut services. That was the Tory way but not the Labour way. Good financial planning was at the heart of the budget allowing the delivery of the Administration's manifesto promises. The risks the Council was facing were higher than in the past leading to the doubling of the contingency elements in the budget. But there was still growth of £30m for services with the plan for £40m growth in 2021/2022. Investment was being made in the Borough's future and *Gateway Services*. The Cabinet Member described his

pride in the Fairfield Halls refurbishment, the New Addington leisure centre, the 1,000 council homes being built, the new Special Educational Needs school, the *Healthy Hub* and increased services in localities. It was emphasised how the budget was fair including the NHS paying its share. Councillor Hall described how the Council was also tackling climate change with initiatives such as the installation of charging points across the Borough. Against a challenging backdrop the budget was one that protected the future of the Borough and its residents.

### **Council Tax and budget vote**

With the conclusion of the Council Tax Debate, as required by the Council's Constitution, recommendations 1.1 to 1.3, as detailed in the report, were taken by a recorded vote using the electronic voting system. The remaining recommendations (1.4 to 1.11 as detailed in the report) were taken en block again using the electronic voting system.

The first vote was for recommendation 1.1: a 1.99% increase in the Council Tax, the level of increase Central Government assumed in all Councils' spending power calculations.

The Members who voted in favour were: Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale, Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack, Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young.

The recommendation was carried unanimously.

The second vote was for recommendation 1.2: a 2.00% increase in the Adult Social Care precept. This was a charge Central Government assumed all councils would levy in its spending power calculations.

The Members who voted in favour were: Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale,

Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack, Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young.

The recommendation was carried unanimously (with Councillor Canning confirming his vote in favour orally).

The third vote was for recommendation 1.3: to welcome the Greater London Authority increase of 3.6%.

The Members who voted in favour were: Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale, Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack, Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young.

The recommendation was carried unanimously.

The remaining recommendations (1.4 to 1.11) were taken en block.

The recommendations were put to the vote.

The Members who voted in favour were: Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale, Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack,

Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young.

The recommendations were carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** The Members of Council resolved to agree the following recommendations:

- 1.1. A 1.99% increase in the Council Tax for Croydon Services (a level of increase Central Government has assumed in all Councils' spending power calculation).
- 1.2. A 2.00% increase in the Adult Social Care precept (a charge Central Government has assumed all councils' will levy in its spending power calculations).
- 1.3. The GLA increase of 3.6%.  
With reference to the principles for 2020/21 determined by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) confirm that in accordance with s.52ZB (1) the Council Tax and GLA precept referred to above are **not excessive** in terms of the most recently issued principles and as such to note that no referendum is required. This is detailed further in section 3.5 of the covering report (at Appendix 6.1).
- 1.4. The calculation of budget requirement and council tax as set out in Appendix 6D and 6E. Including the GLA increase this will result in a total increase of 3.92% in the overall council tax bill for Croydon.
- 1.5. The revenue budget assumptions as detailed in this report and the associated appendices :-
- 1.6. The programme of revenue savings and growth by department for 2020/21 (Appendix 6A).
- 1.7. The Council's detailed budget book for 2020/21 (Appendix 6B).
- 1.8. The draft Capital Programme as set out in section 11, table 18 and 19 of this report, except where noted for specific programmes are subject to separate Cabinet reports.
- 1.9. To increase the Asset Investment Fund by £100 million to £300 million.
- 1.10. To note there are no proposed amendments to the Council's existing Council Tax Support Scheme for the financial year 2020/21.
- 1.11. The adoption of the Pay Policy statement at Appendix 6H.

## 87/20 **Recommendations of Cabinet referred to Council for decision**

### 1. Treasury Management Strategy Statement

Madam Deputy Mayor invited Councillor Hall, the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources to move the recommendations referred by Cabinet on 24 February 2020 related to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Capital Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2020/21. The Cabinet Member highlighted the forecast borrowings evolution noting that this was for the provision of essential

services, the development of Bernard Weatherill House and to build schools that were not properly funded. The level of debt was necessitated by the reduction in Council income streams. Borrowing would also be used to invest and generate additional income for the Council.

The recommendations were seconded by Councillor Patsy Cummings and Madam Deputy Mayor put the recommendations to the vote.

**RESOLVED:** Council AGREED the recommendations in the report:

1.1. Approved the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2020/21 as set out in the covering report (at Appendix 7.1) including the recommendations:

1.1.1. That the Council takes up borrowing requirements as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the covering report (at Appendix 7.1).

1.1.2. That for the reasons detailed in paragraph 4.14 of the covering report (at Appendix 7.1), opportunities for debt rescheduling are reviewed throughout the year by the Director of Finance, Investment and Risk (S151 Officer) and that she be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and in conjunction with the Council's independent treasury advisers, to undertake such rescheduling only if revenue savings or additional cost avoidance can be achieved at minimal risk in line with organisational considerations and with regard to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) as set out in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/2023.

1.1.3. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Finance, Investment and Risk (S151 Officer), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, to make any necessary decisions to protect the Council's financial position in light of market changes or investment risk exposure.

1.2. That the Council adopts the Annual Investment Strategy as set out in paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17 of the covering report (at Appendix 7.1).

1.3. That the Authorised Limit (required by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003) as set out in paragraph 4.10 of the covering report (Appendix 7.1) and as detailed in Appendix 7.1C be as follows:

<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
£1,935.847m	£2,017.896m	£2,062.164m

1.1. That the Council approved the Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 7.1C.

1.2. The Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement (required by the Local Authorities (Capital Financing and Accounting) (England)

(Amendment) Regulations 2008SI 2008/414) as set out in Appendix 7.1D of this report.

- 1.3. That the Council's authorised counterparty lending list as at 31st December 2019 as set out in Appendix 7.1E of this report and the rating criteria set for inclusion onto this list be approved.
- 1.4. That the Council adopts the Capital Strategy Statement set out in section 3 of the covering report (at Appendix 7.1).

## 2. Quarter 3 Financial Performance

Madame Deputy Mayor invited Councillor Hall to move the recommendation in the report. Councillor Hall moved the recommendation with Councillor Patsy Cummings seconding.

Madam Deputy Mayor put the recommendation to the vote.

**RESOLVED:** Council AGREED the recommendation in the report:

- 2.1. The approval to reduce the capital programme by £1.2m as set out in Table 6 of the covering report at Appendix 7.2.

88/20

## **Governance Review Panel**

Deputy Madam Mayor invited Dame Moira Gibb to make her presentation regarding the work of the Governance Review Panel. In inviting Dame Moira to speak, Madam Deputy Mayor thanked her for her outstanding work on the Governance Review Panel and presented her with a gift on behalf of Council.

Dame Moira provided Council with an introduction to the Governance Review Panel and its work. She noted that her role had been as an Independent Chair and that the panel had also had an Independent Member (Anne Smith). It was highlighted that the panel had found the Council's governance arrangements fit for purpose encompassed by a robust written framework. Whilst abiding by the rules was straightforward, the spirit of the governance arrangements were harder to achieve against a challenging backdrop and within political realities. The review had found that Councillor knowledge was not put to best use and residents felt excluded from the decision-making process.

Overall the review had made 11 recommendations under four main themes. The review had focused on culture which had been found to be more important than structure. This was crucial for building a trusting relationship with residents and enabling all parts of the Council to work together to make more than the sum of its parts. Without the right culture it would be difficult to get other aspects right.

Additionally, all Members needed to be given the right support to be effective. The existing decision-making structure had been found to support ambitions and therefore it had been determined that a return to the committee system was not part of the answer. However, new advisory committees were recommended to help inform decisions and engage residents in the process.

Dame Moira reported how the panel had done a very good job in creating a coherent approach. However, putting this into effect would be more challenging. Dame Moira called on Council to support the work of the implementation group. Thanks was given to the supporting officers without whom Dame Moira stressed the review would not have been achieved and who would be crucial to the implementation phase.

Deputy Madam Mayor then called forward members of the Governance Review Panel to comment on its work, report, recommendations and implementation.

**Councillor Collins** described his pleasure in having supported the panel and its work. The Cabinet Member noted that he had served as a Croydon Councillor for 27 years and that the Governance Review Panel had been one of the very best examples of cross party participation he had experienced. Thanks was given to Councillors Perry, Redfern, Chatterjee and Roche for their contribution. The recommendations were described as open, transparent and engaging with Councillor Collins stating it was time for a 21<sup>st</sup> century approach characterised by vibrancy and the engagement of residents. Decision-making was best when all Councillors were allowed to be involved and were able to reflect on the views of their residents and wards. Councillor Collins envisaged a Council that shared positivity and was prepared to debate in public. The committee system was recalled; whilst this had facilitated discussion it was whipped and Councillor Collins recalled Members and officers had become parochial. The role of the new Advisory Committees would be to look at the bigger picture. This had been demonstrated by the positive work of Councillors Mills and Stranack on waste services. This had resulted in residents feeling listened to and was a good example of cross party working. This had been a good way to influence policy and lent itself to voluntary sector involvement. Councillor Collins concluded by describing the work of the Governance Review Panel and its recommendations as a progressive way forward. The motion to propose the recommendations was moved.

**Councillor Tim Pollard** thanked the panel and Dame Moira for their work. It was described how the Cabinet and Leader model of local government had streamlined the decision-making process but to the detriment of transparency. This was a serious loss for service delivery and the service recipient. Councillors with a longer knowledge of council business would recall the committee system. It was questioned if the proposed Advisory Committees would allow the same opportunities and it was thought that this might be the case as long as they did not become a talking shop. It was noted that the new advisory committees would not have the same powers of a Select Committee and would not be able to require the Administration to



attend or data to be provided. However, it was a good positive initiative and it would be seen how genuine the Administration was to change the culture. It was hoped that the fact the Leader was not proposing the recommendations did not mean a lessening of the commitment. Councillor Tim Pollard concluded by seconding the recommendations.

**Councillor Prince** spoke on behalf of backbench Councillors. It was noted that Councillors had a range of responsibilities. For example, to their wards, organisations within their wards, residents, the good of the Borough as a whole and that these may conflict. In order to do their best in their roles as Councillors, they needed the right information at the right time. However, it was noted that as a backbencher it could be hard to know what was coming up, who dealt with what and that if this was difficult as a member of the Administration it must be more difficult in Opposition. Councillor Prince welcomed the recommendations about earlier engagement as this would enable Councillors to gain the information they needed to do their job. The proposed training for Members and officers to better understand each other's roles was welcomed along with the opportunity for backbench Councillors to contribute to a decision before it was finalised. It was envisaged that this would lead to broader more rounded information set being used to make decisions. The value of this approach being cross party and held in public was emphasised. Councillor Prince expressed her support for the implementation group. As a panel member she welcomed working together across parties; whilst there had been some awkwardness, trust had been built allowing recommendations to be formulated. Different philosophies were a strength and not a weakness and needed to be aired before decisions were taken.

**Councillor Redfern** specifically thanked Dame Moira and the lead officer for the Governance Review Panel, Agnieszka Kutek. It was stressed that the success of the implementation of the review would not be determined by structure but depended on the commitment to cultural change. The panel had looked at different models of decision-making. This had included Sutton which was an example of Members working really hard together. In fact, the positive tone had been a revelation. This underlined that it was only with culture change that structural changes could work. The Panel had found that much that was recommended could already have been achieved. For example, the Constitution allowed for Neighbourhood Forums. More weight being given to Members outside of the Administration was welcomed. It was noted that this approach needed to come from the top and that personal attacks could not continue. Councillor Redfern called on Councillors to think about the language used inside and outside meetings. This had to apply to all Members – front or backbench. Councillor Redfern stressed that Council had a responsibility to residents of the Borough to make a success of the panel's recommendations and described how the success of the implementation was in the gift of the Administration's leadership. All Members were called on to vote in favour of the panel's recommendations.

**Councillor Fitzsimons** described how adopting the panel's recommendations could radically change how the Council was governed. It was noted that a less brave Administration could have forced through

cosmetic changes without backbench or Opposition input. Councillor Fitzsimons noted that structures do have a role but that real change would be achieved through creating a different culture. The panel's recommendations should lead to greater transparency and a greater role for all Councillors, especially backbenchers. Councillor Fitzsimons saw this as a chance to bring back collective decision-making, focused on improving outcomes for residents and service users. Councillor Fitzsimons described this as being about improving democracy which had to be undertaken on a cross party basis to ensure long term change.

**Councillor Roche** gave his thanks to Dame Moira, Anne Smith, the other panel members and officers whose dedication had produced the panel's final report. The Governance Review had been a manifesto pledge for both the Conservative and Labour Groups. This envisaged wider participation and the utilisation of backbench talents along with better support for non-executive Members allowing them to contribute to areas about which they were passionate. Councillor Roche described how the panel's recommendations would lead to increased openness and resident confidence. It was important that the voice of residents was not forgotten or seen as less important. A Council Forward Plan was welcomed and seen as important because it would clarify how the Council made decisions. It was described how concessions had been made through the review process to enable productive and meaningful progress with a lot of credit being due to the Chair for successfully guiding this process. Dame Moira's calm and balanced approach was noted. The importance of the implementation group was stressed.

**Councillor Ben-Hassel** described how she had been a party member at the time the manifesto pledge to a governance review had been made. This had resulted from the desire for more transparency and engagement as the basis for policy implementation in the face of austerity. As a result the Group had recommended a Governance Review that should be cross party and independently chaired to ensure a greater voice to all Members and residents.

Councillor Ben-Hassel described how she was privileged to welcome the panel's findings and recommendations. It was anticipated that further work would be done on defining key decisions. The panel had demonstrated how a cross party approach could be constructive and better for all – certainly better than half-truths on *Twitter*. The implementation of the panel's recommendations would allow scrutiny to focus on in-depth reviews and to hold external partners to account.

**Councillor Brew** described how he was speaking as a backbencher in favour of the motion. It was described how the Council encouraged residents to make reports online. Whilst this was the most efficient way for the Council to receive feedback from residents it was not the most effective. Some residents, notably those who were older, had difficulties in using modern technology and preferred a friendly chat. Councillor Brew stressed his support for Cabinet and other Council committee to go on *walk-about*s; these would open up new public forums for residents to hear from decision-makers and be more effective than Public Questions at Council meetings. Additionally, Advisory

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Committees would allow reviews to be conducted in public before decisions were made. Councillor Brew described how until Croydon had a directly elected Mayor and whilst power continued to be vested in the Leader, this was best way to get more resident involvement in the decision-making process. However, Public Questions at Council meetings should be retained until the Advisory Committees were up and running and had proved their effectiveness.

Madam Deputy Mayor put the recommendations to the vote.

- RESOLVED:** Council AGREED the recommendations contained in the report:
1. Noted the report by the Governance Review Panel as detailed in Appendix 8.1 to the report;
  2. Agreed the recommendations of the Panel contained within the Governance Review Panel report and also detailed in Appendix 8.2 to the report;
  3. Agreed the establishment of the Member-led implementation working group as detailed in paragraphs 5 to 5.4 of the report;
  4. Agreed terms of reference for that working group as detailed in Appendix 8.3 to the report; and
  5. Noted the timetable for implementation of the Panel's recommendations as detailed in paragraph 5.5 of the report.

89/20 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

This item was not required.

The meeting ended at 9:05pm

**Signed:**

**Date:** .....

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## Extraordinary Council

Meeting held on Monday, 2 March 2020 at 9.05 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX

### MINUTES

**Present:** Councillor Maddie Henson (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors Hamida Ali, Muhammad Ali, Jamie Audsley, Jane Avis, Jeet Bains, Leila Ben-Hassel, Sue Bennett, Margaret Bird, Simon Brew, Alison Butler, Jan Buttinger, Janet Campbell, Robert Canning, Richard Chatterjee, Sherwan Chowdhury, Luke Clancy, Chris Clark, Pat Clouder, Stuart Collins, Jason Cummings, Patsy Cummings, Mario Creatura, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzsimons, Alisa Flemming, Felicity Flynn, Clive Fraser, Maria Gatland, Lynne Hale, Simon Hall, Patricia Hay-Justice, Simon Hoar, Yvette Hopley, Karen Jewitt, Bernadette Khan, Shafi Khan, Stuart King, Toni Letts, Oliver Lewis, Stephen Mann, Stuart Millson, Vidhi Mohan, Michael Neal, Tony Newman, Oni Oviri, Ian Parker, Andrew Pelling, Jason Perry, Helen Pollard, Tim Pollard, Joy Prince, Badsha Quadir, Helen Redfern, Scott Roche, Pat Ryan, Paul Scott, Manju Shahul-Hameed, Andy Stranack, Gareth Streeter, Robert Ward, David Wood, Louisa Woodley and Callton Young

**Apologies:** Councillor Humayun Kabir, Mary Croos, Nina Degrads, Steve Hollands and Steve O'Connell

### PART A

90/20 **Disclosure of Interests**

There were no disclosures of interests.

91/20 **Matter for Consideration by Council**

Madam Deputy Mayor informed Council that a requisition signed by 19 Members of Council had been received and that in the absence of the Mayor, she had agreed that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council could be held.

The Chief Executive was invited to read the requisition:

*"In light of Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield ("Westfield") reporting that it has removed the proposed redevelopment of the Whitgift Centre from its development project portfolio, the following Members of the Council greatly regret the current Administration's incompetence in losing this opportunity to regenerate Croydon's Town Centre.*

*The town centre is now suffering from considerable blight and a much reduced retail and leisure offer. It is vital that there is a plan in terms of meanwhile use and to encourage the return of a vibrant town centre of which all Croydon residents can be proud. It is time that the Administration shared with the public what this plan is.”*

Madam Deputy Mayor invited Councillor Perry to propose the motion.

**Councillor Perry** explained that the Extraordinary Council meeting had been requested to discuss the challenges faced by the Westfield scheme and the news that it had been removed from the project pipeline. It was stressed that this was not about talking down the town and its talents. However, there was no belief in the ability of the Labour Administration to deliver the development.

The Westfield scheme was described as the final piece of the puzzle to hold the regeneration of the town centre together and that the scheme was a once in a generation opportunity to achieve a step change. Councillor Perry noted that the Conservative Group had always supported the development and the original proposal had been initiated under its Administration. The withdrawal of the scheme had caused shockwaves and the risk of town centre blight. The Extraordinary Council meeting was therefore being held to ensure Westfield was on the agenda; to allow discussion of a major scheme and the implications for the town.

Councillor Perry described how the Opposition was supporting the Westfield development and wanted to see it succeed. It was highlighted that not enough was being done to talk-up the scheme. It was suggested that the Administration needed to do more to work with the developers. Uncertainty about the development risked doubt setting in which would lead to difficulties for the local economy.

It was noted that Westfield had not featured on the agenda of a Full Council meeting for a year and that this vacuum was creating space for rumours to take hold. The Opposition wanted it on the agenda and built. Councillor Perry noted the reassuring *Twitter* messages that had been issued by the *Croydon Partnership*. The updates provided were welcomed with the request for more to be made to bolster the image of the town.

The Council was called on to facilitate *meanwhile uses* of the existing site to showcase Croydon's many talents. Councillor Perry stressed that the need for the Administration to show leadership rather than leaving the future of the Westfield development to others. It was in the shared interests of all for the Administration to be proactive. However, Councillor Perry noted that there had not been one mention of Westfield during the recent discussion of the *Growth Zone* at Cabinet. This was despite there having been a meeting with the *Croydon Partnership* on the same day as the Cabinet meeting. It was asked why the Administration had not taken the opportunity to reassure residents. Councillor Perry called for Westfield to be on the agenda and discussed regularly to ensure all members could be involved and informed of progress. Councillor Perry concluded by moving the motion.

**Councillor Tim Pollard** seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak

The Leader, **Councillor Newman**, spoke in opposition to the motion citing that it was riddled with factual inaccuracies. The statement made by the *Croydon Partnership*, on the same day as Council, was read in full:

*“The challenges in the retail industry are affecting developments across the UK. Despite this, the Croydon Partnership recognises the opportunity to create a vibrant, mixed-use development for Croydon.*

*We are reviewing the development to ensure it meets the future needs of the community, including a viable mix of retail, dining, leisure and uses such as a hotel, offices and residential space.*

*We are working closely with Croydon Council, the Greater London Authority and local stakeholders to develop the right masterplan. Croydon Council, the Greater London Authority and the Croydon Partnership held a productive meeting to discuss the time-intensive, future planning support needed for a large and complex scheme and the delivery of a more sustainable development, phased over time, which includes the refurbishment of some existing buildings. We will continue to consult with businesses and residents on their needs for the town centre which will also inform the review. The Croydon Partnership is still committed to ensuring a dynamic town centre and will work together with all stakeholders and the community to support its existing assets in Croydon.”*

The Leader explained how the Westfield scheme when it was originally envisaged approximately eight years previously had been considered as one of the first pieces in the regeneration of the town centre. It was accepted that it would now be one of the final pieces of the redevelopment to take place. This demonstrated that other elements of the regeneration such as Fairfield Halls and East Croydon station were being successfully delivered. In fact, Croydon was lit-up by cranes at night.

It was stressed that meetings about the Westfield scheme were being held. However, that it had also been acknowledged that the scheme was being affected by other changes. Dropping a huge retail hanger into a town centre was no longer feasible and Westfield, along with other retail sites, had seen a downturn in demand reflecting the 20% increase in online shopping. This meant that a new development had to be designed that reflected the changes in consumer needs.

The Leader described how a new design would need to be developed based on widespread consultation and that the Administration was clear that it wanted to consult residents. The crash in retail had caught up with the reality of the previous scheme which had been formally acknowledged. The Administration shared the frustrations this caused but this meant that the town centre had narrowly missed ending up with a scheme that very quickly would no longer be fit for purpose. A mixed used facility was needed that included

offices, leisure and retail delivered using a sustainable scheme. It was highlighted how the new governance model would be used to listen to residents, gain their involvement in the new scheme and deliver a Croydon in which there could be shared pride.

**Councillor Skipper** welcomed the statement from the *Croydon Partnership* and highlighted the importance of delivering the right scheme. It was the responsibility of community leaders to go out and give people confidence in the scheme and demand that more be achieved. Whilst Councillor Skipper acknowledged that she shared the frustrations of others she also stressed that it was not the right scheme and that she could not support a development that was no longer right for the town centre. Councillor Skipper called for a dynamic scheme with sustainability at its heart delivering a town centre that responded to the climate emergency and could be shown off. It would need to include places to play and socialise. The development was described as the final piece of the regeneration jigsaw and that the *Croydon Partnership* needed to be pressed for investment. It was described how residents and local stakeholders would be consulted to understand what the development should look like. Councillor Skipper concluded that Croydon was the best place to live because the Administration was there to make it so.

**Councillor Creatura** noted that it was seven years since the development was first envisaged and that, with such a long time having passed without any progress, people were doubting that it would happen at all. The importance of the development was stressed; the definition of social and economic development was the uplift this brought to people's lives and the additional investment this attracted. Councillor Creatura reported that it was over two years since Westfield had been discussed at Council which was causing concern.

The recent announcement that the development was no longer in the project pipeline had led to worry. Residents were asking questions; when would the development happen, how long would it take, when would it start? Councillor Creatura called on Cabinet Members to urgently publish criteria by which to judge whether progress was happening and to use Cabinet Member announcements at Council to provide updates on what they had personally done to achieve progress. Councillor Creatura concluded that he wanted to help get progress reported and help deliver an appropriate Westfield scheme.

**Councillor Scott**, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport & Regeneration (Job-Share) described how work was continuing with the Mayor of London, partners and the developers to progress the scheme. However, the town centre was changing fast and *Brexit* was stifling investment. As a result, it was not surprising that the plans for the development were having to be rethought. Councillor Scott explained that there was a need to ensure the development was sustainable, long term and vibrant.

It would be the partners that would determine how the scheme went forward. Planning and logistics were already being considered and a workshop was being held to consult on the Westfield quarter. This envisaged streets and



squares, homes and leisure, recycling and reuse of existing structures alongside travel including cycling and walking. The development would be achieved through a phased delivery and it was only part of the redevelopment of the town centre. This was already underway with Queen's Square, Fairfield Halls and the surrounding area including the modular build on George Street, which would have a taller tower next to it, and East Croydon Station that would see two further towers developed on the site. Councillor Scott expressed his pride in the *Growth Zone* and called for this not to be talked down. Rather the focus should be on positive civic spirit and working together.

The Leader of the Opposition, **Councillor Tim Pollard** explained that the Opposition was seeking action on one of the Borough's most pressing emergencies. It was described how a few years earlier the town centre had been on the edge of a massive development. However, instead of this the high street had 100 ft of empty shop frontage. Whilst this had not resulted from any deliberate action it was stressed that it had happened on the Administration's watch. Councillor Tim Pollard hoped the Administration would be able to deliver the development; it was contemplated that a third iteration of the scheme might work. Regardless, completion of the scheme was at least six to 12 years away. The regeneration of the town centre needed to be more than just housing. The aim of the motion was to get the Administration to begin talking about the scheme again. The Administration was called on to act to stop the empty shop frontages shouting out decay. Whilst it was not the role of the Administration to deliver such schemes it could maintain the pressure on the developers. There was a need to send a message that there was a credible plan in place to deal with the situation.

Madam Deputy Mayor moved the vote which fell and the motion was not carried.

92/20 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

This item was not required.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm

**Signed:**

**Date:**

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# Agenda Item 7

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ANNUAL COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>6 JULY 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>JACQUELINE HARRIS BAKER COUNCIL SOLICITOR &amp; MONITORING OFFICER</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b> The Council is required under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to keep under review the representation of the different political groups on bodies appointed to by the Council. Section 2 of Part 4.A read with Article 4.1(f) of the Constitution empowers the Council to appoint to non-executive Committees at its Annual Meeting.	
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY:</b> There are no financial issues arising from the recommendations in this report.	

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is recommended to:

- 1.1 Confirm that there are 41 Labour Group Members and 29 Conservative Group Members (as set out in Para 3.1); and
- 1.2 Approve the appointment and composition of Committees as set out in paragraph 4.7

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 established the principle of the proportional allocation of committee and sub-committee seats.
- 2.2 The Council is also required under Section 15(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to keep under review the representation of the different political groups on bodies appointed by the Council.
- 2.3 This report details:
  - i) The annual review of the political balance of the Council; and
  - ii) Recommends the appointment and composition of Committees for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

### 3. POLITICAL GROUPS

- 3.1 In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the under-mentioned Councillors have given notice to the Chief Executive of their wish to be regarded as members of the political groups as set out below:

#### **Labour Political Party**

1. Hamida Ali
2. Muhammad Ali
3. Jamie Audsley
4. Jane Avis
5. Leila Ben-Hassel
6. Alison Butler
7. Janet Campbell
8. Robert Canning
9. Sherwan Chowdhury
10. Chris Clark
11. Pat Clouder
12. Stuart Collins
13. Mary Croos
14. Patsy Cummings
15. Nina Degrads
16. Jerry Fitzpatrick
17. Sean Fitzsimons
18. Alisa Flemming
19. Felicity Flynn
20. Clive Fraser
21. Simon Hall
22. Patricia Hay-Justice
23. Maddie Henson
24. Karen Jewitt
25. Humayun Kabir
26. Bernadette Khan
27. Shafi Khan
28. Stuart King
29. Toni Letts
30. Oliver Lewis
31. Stephen Mann
32. Tony Newman
33. Andrew Pelling
34. Joy Prince
35. Pat Ryan
36. Paul Scott
37. Manju Shahul-Hameed
38. Caragh Skipper
39. David Wood
40. Louisa Woodley
41. Callton Young

#### **Conservative Political Party**

1. Jeet Bains
2. Sue Bennett
3. Margaret Bird
4. Simon Brew
5. Jan Buttinger
6. Richard Chatterjee
7. Luke Clancy
8. Mario Creatura
9. Jason Cummings
10. Maria Gatland
11. Lynne Hale
12. Simon Hoar
13. Steve Hollands
14. Yvette Hopley
15. Stuart Millson
16. Vidhi Mohan
17. Michela Neal
18. Steve O'Connell
19. Oni Oviri
20. Ian Parker
21. Jason Perry
22. Helen Pollard
23. Tim Pollard
24. Badsha Quadir
25. Helen Redfern
26. Scott Roche
27. Andy Stranack
28. Gareth Streeter
29. Robert Ward

#### 4. Proportionality

4.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Duty to Allocate Seats to Political Groups) sets out the requirements as to political proportionality on Council bodies and requires the Council, in allocating seats on committees and sub-committees of the Council to political groups, to give effect, so far as practicable, to the following rules:

- (i) that not all seats on the committee/sub-committee are allocated to the same political group;
- (ii) that the political group having a majority of seats on the Council should have a majority on each committee and sub-committee;
- (iii) that, subject to (i) and (ii) above, the number of seats on the Council's committees and sub-committees allocated to each political group, bears the same proportion to the total number of such committee/sub-committee seats as the number of members of that group bears to the membership of the full Council, and
- (iv) that, subject to (i) to (iii) above, that the number of the seats on the Council's committees and sub-committees which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.

4.2 The Council's overriding duty to comply with (i) and (ii) above takes precedence over achieving a mathematically balanced distribution of Committee seats as described in (iii) and (iv). Applying those rules the table below sets out the allocation of seats.

	<b>Political Composition- percentage seats out of 70</b>	<b>Proposed allocation of actual seats out of 95 Council Member seats</b>	<b>Percentage outcome of allocation of 95 voting seats*</b>
Labour Group	58.6%	59	62.1
Conservative Group	41.4%	36	37.9
	100%	95	100

\*4.7 below shows that there are 95 voting seats available to political groups. Where co-optees can vote, the allocation has to take into account the need for the Majority party to have a majority of seats over all Minority party members **and** co-opted members. The proposed percentage allocation only includes those seats to which elected Members can be appointed.

- 4.3 Following the introduction of the Localism Act 2011, the requirement for the Ethics Committee to be excluded from the requirements of the 1989 Act was removed such that the political balance requirements of the 1989 Act do apply to the Ethics Committee unless the whole Council votes in favour of disapplying the proportionality rules for this Committee. The Ethics Committee is constituted of six Councillors and two non-elected Independent Persons.
- 4.4 Under the Licensing Act 2003, Sub-Committees of the Licensing Committee are constituted separately. There is no statutory requirement for political balance or for it to be included in the Council's political balance calculations, but it is the practice of the authority to ensure that, as far as reasonably practicable, such Sub-Committees are constituted in accordance with the Council's scheme of proportionality.
- 4.5 The Health & Well-Being Board is separately constituted under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Regulations made under the Health and Social Act 2012 provide that Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Duty to Allocate Seats to Political Groups) need not apply to the composition of this Board.
- 4.6 The Local Pension Board is constituted under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the Local Government Pensions Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2015. The proportionality rules do not apply to the Board which has three employer representatives and three employee representatives and an Independent non-voting Chair. One of the Employer representatives is a Councillor. The other employer representatives are employers who are Admitted Bodies.
- 4.7 In accordance with Article 4.1(f) of the Constitution, the Council is required to decide on the composition of Non-executive Committees and make appointments to them. It is therefore proposed that Council appoint the following Committees and agree their composition:

	Majority seats	Minority seats	Co-optees <sup>1</sup>	Total seats
Appointments Committee	4	2	2	8
Ethics Committee	4	2	2	8
General Purposes & Audit Committee	6	4	2	12
Mayoralty & Honorary Freeman Selection Sub-Committee	3	2	0	5
General Purposes & Audit Committee: Urgency Sub-Committee	2	1	0	3
Licensing Committee	7	5	0	12
Licensing Sub-Committee*	2	1	0	3
Pension Committee	5	3	3	11
Planning Committee	6	4	0	10
Planning Sub-Committee	3	2	0	5
Scrutiny and Overview Committee	4	2	1	7
Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee	5	3	5	13
Health & Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee	4	2	1	7
Streets, Environment & Homes Scrutiny Sub-Committee	4	3	0	7
	59	36	16	111

\* subject to paragraph 4.4 above

<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Co-opted members are non-voting except for four of the five co-optees on the Children & Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee in respect of issues relating to the Council as a Local Education Authority; one Pensioner Side co-opted Member on the Pension Committee; and the two Independent Persons, on the Appointments Committee, for specified purposes, as detailed in paragraph 1.4, Part 4E and paragraph 2, Part 3 of the Council Constitution respectively.

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer that the recommendations contained within this report are compliant with Council's duties under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Local Government Act 2000, the Licensing Act 2003, the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015, and the Council's Constitution.
- 5.2 Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer

## **6. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6.2. Approved by Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk

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**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None

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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ANNUAL COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>6 JULY 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENTS AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>JACQUELINE HARRIS BAKER COUNCIL SOLICITOR &amp; MONITORING OFFICER</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<p><b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b> The annual appointments are a constitutional requirement set out in Part 4A of the constitution. The Coronavirus Act 2020 and regulations made pursuant to this Act provide that the Council may delay annual appointments or not make annual appointments for the current municipal year with the existing appointments rolling over.</p>	
<p><b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY:</b> There are no new financial issues arising from the recommendations in this report.</p>	

<b>1.</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
	Council is recommended to:
1.1	Agree (or receive for information as applicable) the following appointments where the number of nominations is equal to the number of available positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The appointments to Committees of the Council (Blue Schedule); and</li> <li>ii) The appointments to all other Panels, Working Groups and Outside Bodies (Pink Schedule).</li> </ul>
1.2	Agree the suspension of paragraph 2.3 of the Non-Executive Procedure Rules (Part 4F of the Constitution) for the municipal year 2020/2021;
1.3	Agree, with the exception of the Licensing Sub-Committee, the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair of all Council committees and sub-committees as set out in the (Blue Schedule) for the municipal year 2020/2021. This is without prejudice to the provisions set out in paragraph 2.4 of Part 4F of the Constitution which would continue to apply enabling in year vacancies to either the Chair or Vice Chair to be filled by election at the first meeting of the relevant committee or sub-committee following notification to the Council Solicitor.
1.4	Receive for information executive appointments made under the Leader and Cabinet decision making framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The appointments of Cabinet Members, Cabinet Committees and Deputy Cabinet Members (Blue Schedule);</li> <li>ii) The appointments to Joint Committees (Blue Schedule);</li> <li>iii) The appointments to London Councils Committees and Panels and Local</li> </ul>

- Government Association bodies (Blue Schedule); and
  - iv) The appointment of Councillors to the Health & Wellbeing Board (Blue Schedule).
- 1.5 Note that the Leader has confirmed his intention to continue to devolve decision making powers to Cabinet or relevant Cabinet Members.
- 1.6 Receive for information:
- i) The appointments of Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Cabinet (Blue Schedule);
  - ii) The appointments of political party group officers (Blue Schedule)
- 1.7 Note that the Council Solicitor has exercised her powers under Article 15 of the Constitution paragraph 15.2 (d) to make changes to the Council’s Constitution arising as a result of legislative changes brought about by the Coronavirus Act 2020 and in particular the The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 with regard to remote attendance at council meetings. The revised Protocol and Procedure Rules have been approved and incorporated into the Council’s Constitution at Part 4.O.

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1 This report details the Non-Executive appointments to be made by the Council for the Municipal Year 2020-21 and notes the Executive appointments made by the Leader of the Council.

**2. APPOINTMENTS**

2.1 Part 4A of the Council’s Constitution reserves the business of the Annual Meeting of the Council to a number of matters, which includes the appointment of Members to Committees and other bodies.

2.2 Those appointments can be broadly divided into three categories: Non-Executive Appointments; Party Political Appointments; and External Appointments.

Executive Appointments

2.3 In accordance with Article 7 of the Council’s Constitution, the power to make Executive Appointments is reserved to the Leader of the Council under the ‘Leader and Cabinet’ model of decision making. This includes positions such as Cabinet Members and portfolios, Cabinet Committees and Joint Committees exercising Executive functions.

2.4 In accordance with the statutory rules, the Council operates a ‘Leader and Cabinet’ model of decision making that permits the Leader to take all executive decisions. The Council Leader has indicated, subject to item 7 on the agenda, that it is his intention to continue to devolve and disperse executive decision making powers. The established custom and practice is for the overwhelming majority of executive decisions to be delegated to the Cabinet for collective consideration or to relevant individual Cabinet Members.

- 2.5 Those Executive appointments made by the Leader of the Council are listed in the attached 'Blue' and 'Pink' appointment schedules and are marked 'For information'.
- 2.6 As this year's Executive appointments continue with a 'job share' arrangement for one Cabinet Member position, Members are asked to note that the Council Solicitor has made the necessary consequential changes to the Constitution to reflect the arrangements for 'job-share' executive roles.

#### Non-Executive Appointments

- 2.7 This category of appointments covers all Council positions that are not reserved to the Executive, such as seats on Non-Executive Committees and outside bodies.
- 2.8 When making Non-Executive appointments, Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Duty to Give Effect to Allocations) requires the Council to give effect to any allocations in accordance with the wishes of the relevant party political groups. The wishes of the party political groups represented on the Council are listed in the attached 'Blue' and 'Pink' appointment schedules and are marked 'For agreement'. Council is recommended to agree those appointments. Section 16 of the same Act sets out the requirement for political proportionality and the political balance and composition of the Committees is set out in a separate report in this agenda.

#### Party Political Appointments

- 2.9 In accordance with Part 4A and Part 6A of the Council's Constitution, Annual Council is also asked to receive for information those appointments made by political parties represented on the Council.
- 2.10 Those appointments are also detailed in the 'Blue' and 'Pink' appointment schedules attached to this report and are marked 'For noting'. Council is asked to note those appointments.

#### External Appointments

- 2.11 Appointments to outside bodies are made for four years following local elections. Annual appointments in following years are restricted to those organisations that require annual appointments or where Members are unable to continue their membership.
- 2.12 In respect of Executive appointments to outside bodies Article 4.1 (g) of the Constitution provides that, the Leader and Cabinet or the Council Solicitor, after consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member may make appointments to outside bodies as necessary during the year. In respect of Non-Executive appointments the General Purposes and Audit Committee or the Council Solicitor after consultation with the Chair of the General Purposes and Audit Committee may make appointments to outside bodies as necessary during the year.

## Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair Positions

- 2.13 To assist with the management of the Annual Council meeting in remote format during the Covid pandemic it is proposed that the usual provisions in the Constitution (paragraph 2.3 Non-Executive Procedure Rules – Part 4F) which provide for the Chairs and Vice Chairs to be appointed at the first meeting of each committee or sub-committee be suspended for the municipal year 2020/21 and for such appointments to be made by full council instead. With the exception of the Licensing Sub-Committee the proposed appointments to the office of Chair and Vice Chair are set out on the Blue Schedule attached. This is without prejudice to the provisions in paragraph 2.4 of Part 4F of the Constitution which provides that in the event of an in year appointment to the position of Chair or Vice Chair this may continue to be filled at the first meeting of the relevant committee or sub-committee following notification to the Council Solicitor.

### **3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring officer that the Coronavirus Act 2020 ('the CV Act') <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/contents/enacted> is the government's main legislative change in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Most of its provisions came into effect on 25 March 2020 but detailed further legislation in the form of statutory instruments and government guidance have been issued since that date and continue to be published.
- 3.2 The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No. 392 ('the Flexibility Regulations') <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/392/made> exercise powers set out in section 78 of the CV Act and make specific legislative provision for remote attendance at meetings including public and press access to those meetings. The Flexibility Regulations came into force on 4 April 2020 and apply to local authority meetings held on or before 7 May 2021.
- 3.3 The Council Solicitor has exercised her powers under Article 15 of the Constitution paragraph 15.2 (d) to make changes to the Council's Constitution arising as a result of legislative changes brought about by the Coronavirus Act 2020 and in particular the Flexibility Regulations with regard to remote attendance at council meetings. The revised Protocol and Procedure Rules have been approved and incorporated into the Council's Constitution at Part 4.O.
- 3.3 The CV Act also makes holding an Annual Meeting during the 2020/21 municipal year a matter of choice. Where an annual meeting is delayed, all appointments from the 2019 Annual Meeting continue until these are appropriately amended by Council as proposed in the recommendations to this report.
- 3.4 In addition to the above referenced provisions, the Council will need to continue to comply with its duties under the Local Government and

Housing Act 1989, the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Local Government Act 2000, the Licensing Act 2003, the Localism Act 2011, The Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Council's Constitution.

- 3.2 Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer

#### **4 FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no new financial burdens arising from the recommendations of this report.
- 4.2 Approved by: Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk and Section 151 Officer.

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#### **APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT**

- Appendix 1: Blue Appointment Schedule: Appointments to Main Council Bodies
- Appendix 2: Pink Appointment Schedule: Appointments to all other Panels, Working Groups and Outside Bodies

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

- Procedure rules for remote meetings (Part 4O of the Constitution): [here](#)
- Remote meetings protocol (Part 4O(i) of the Constitution): [here](#)

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**ANNUAL COUNCIL – 6 JULY 2020****Appointments to Main Council Bodies**

<b>Appointments:</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Cabinet Members</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Cabinet Committees</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Deputy Cabinet Members</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Statutory Executive Joint Committees</b>	<b>3 - 5</b>
4a	Bandon Hill Cemetery Joint Committee	3
4b	Croydon & Lewisham Street Lighting Joint Committee	3
4c	South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee	3
4d	South London Partnership Joint Committee	4
<b>5</b>	<b>Leader of the Opposition &amp; Shadow Cabinet</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Non-Executive Committee Appointments</b>	<b>6 - 13</b>
6a	Appointments Committee	6
6b	General Purposes and Audit Committee	6
6c	General Purposes and Audit Committee - Mayoralty & Honorary Freedom Selection Sub-Committee	7
6d	General Purpose and Audit Committee - Urgency Sub-Committee	7
6e	Licensing Committee	7
6f	Licensing Sub-Committee	8
6g	Pension Board	8
6h	Pension Committee	8
6i	Planning Committee	9
6j	Planning Sub-Committee	9
6k	Scrutiny & Overview Committee	9
6l	Scrutiny Children and Young People Sub-Committee	10
6m	Scrutiny Health, Social Care & Housing Sub-Committee	11
6n	Scrutiny Streets and Environment Sub-Committee	11
6o	Ethics Committee	12
6p	Health and Wellbeing Board (Croydon)	12
6q	Traffic Management Advisory Committee	13
<b>7</b>	<b>Political Party Group Officers</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Champions</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>1. CABINET MEMBER APPOINTMENTS: For Information</b>	
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Leader – Budget and Strategic Policy	Tony Newman
Deputy Leader (Statutory) – Homes & Gateway Services	Alison Butler
Deputy Leader – Clean Green Croydon	Stuart Collins
Finance & Resources	Simon Hall
Environment, Transport & Regeneration	Stuart King/Paul Scott (Job Share)
Culture, Leisure & Sport	Oliver Lewis
Families, Health and Social Care	Janet Campbell
Safer Croydon & Communities	Hamida Ali
Economy & Jobs	Manju Shahul-Hameed
Children, Young People & Learning	Alisa Flemming

<b>2. CABINET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: For Information</b>	
In accordance with Article 7.06 of the Constitution, the Leader of the Council has appointed the following Cabinet Committees and determined that the Membership of each of those Cabinet Committees shall be any Cabinet Member and one non-voting Shadow Cabinet Member, with a quorum of three Cabinet Members.	
<b>2(a).</b>	GENERAL PURPOSES CABINET COMMITTEE

<b>3. DEPUTY CABINET MEMBERS APPOINTMENTS: For Information</b>	
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Homes & Gateway Services	Patricia Hay-Justice
Clean Green Croydon	Nina Degrad
Finance & Resources	Patsy Cummings
Environment, Transport & Regeneration	Muhammad Ali
Culture, Leisure & Sport	Felicity Flynn
Families, Health and Social Care	Jane Avis
Safer Croydon & Communities	David Wood
Economy & Jobs	Toni Letts
Children, Young People & Learning	Shafi Khan



<b>4. STATUTORY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: For information</b>
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<b>4a. BANDON HILL CEMETERY - Total Membership from Croydon Council: 5</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	
1.	Oliver Lewis
2.	Stuart Collins
3.	Alison Butler
4.	Hamida Ali
5.	<i>Vacancy</i>

<b>4b. CROYDON &amp; LEWISHAM STREET LIGHTING JOINT COMMITTEE – Total Membership from Croydon Council: 2 &amp; 2 reserves</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	
1.	Stuart King/Paul Scott (Job Share)
2.	Muhammad Ali
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>	
1.	Felicity Flynn
2.	<i>Vacancy</i>

<b>4c. SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE – Total Membership from Croydon Council: 2 &amp; 2 reserves</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	
1.	Stuart Collins
2.	Stuart King
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>	
1.	Muhammad Ali
2.	Nina Degrad

<b>4d. SOUTH LONDON PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE –</b> Total Membership from Croydon Council: 1 + 1 reserve	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	
1.	Tony Newman
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>	
1.	Alison Butler

<b>5. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION &amp; SHADOW CABINET APPOINTMENTS: For Information</b>	
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Leader	Tim Pollard
Deputy Leader – Economy, Jobs and Planning	Jason Perry
Deputy Leader – Finance and Resources	Jason Cummings
Housing and Gateway Services	Lynne Hale
Health & Social Care	Yvette Hopley
Clean Green Croydon	Vidhi Mohan
Communities, Safety & Justice	Mario Creatura
Transport, Environment & Air Quality	Simon Hoar
Children, Families, Young People & Learning	Maria Gatland
Culture, Leisure and Sport	Helen Pollard

<b>6. NON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: For Agreement</b>
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<b>6a. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - Membership: 6</b>
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Majority Group Members to be appointed: <b>4</b> Minority Group Members to be appointed: <b>2</b> Plus <b>2</b> Independent Voting Co-Optees for specified purposes.
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<b>Chair</b>	Tony Newman
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Alison Butler
<b>Independent Voting Co-optees for specified purposes:</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Anne Smith
<b>2.</b>	Ashok Kumar

<b>6b. GENERAL PURPOSES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (GPAC) - Total Membership: 12</b> (10 Members & 2 Co-optees (non-voting))
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Majority Group Members to be appointed: 6		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 4	
<b>1.</b>	Karen Jewitt (Chair)	<b>1.</b>	Jan Buttinger
<b>2.</b>	Stephen Mann (Vice-Chair)	<b>2.</b>	Steve Hollands
<b>3.</b>	Bernadette Khan	<b>3.</b>	Stuart Millson
<b>4.</b>	Joy Prince	<b>4.</b>	Oni Oviri
<b>5.</b>	Mary Croos		
<b>6.</b>	Jamie Audsley		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
<b>1.</b>	Clive Fraser	<b>1.</b>	Simon Brew
<b>2.</b>	Pat Clouder	<b>2.</b>	Jason Cummings
<b>3.</b>	Felicity Flynn	<b>3.</b>	Ian Parker
<b>4.</b>	Nina Degrads	<b>4.</b>	Badsha Quadir
<b>5.</b>	Patricia Hay-Justice		
<b>6.</b>	<i>Vacancy</i>		
<b>CO-OPTees (NON-VOTING):</b>			
<b>1.</b>	Muffaddal Kapasi		
<b>2.</b>	James Smith (TBC)		

<b>6c. GENERAL PURPOSES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - MAYORALTY &amp; HONORARY FREEDOM SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 5</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Tony Newman (Chair)	1.	Tim Pollard
2.	Manju Shahul-Hameed (Vice-Chair)	2.	Jason Perry
3.	Simon Hall		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Pat Clouder	1.	Jason Cummings
2.	Toni Letts	2.	Helen Redfern
3.	Clive Fraser		

<b>6d. GENERAL PURPOSES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - URGENCY SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 3</b>	
In accordance with paragraph 2.3 of Part 3 of the Constitution, membership of this Sub-Committee is drawn from the Membership of the General Purposes and Audit Committee and constituted as and when necessary by the Council Solicitor.	

<b>6e. LICENSING COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 12</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 7		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 5	
1.	Callton Young (Chair)	1.	Michael Neal (Vice-Chair)
2.	Pat Clouder (Vice-Chair)	2.	Margaret Bird
3.	Karen Jewitt	3.	Robert Ward
4.	Nina Degrad	4.	Badsha Quadir
5.	Robert Canning	5.	Steve O’Connell
6.	Felicity Flynn		
7.	Chris Clark		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Bernadette Khan	1.	Sue Bennett
2.	Jerry Fitzpatrick	2.	Helen Redfern
3.	Stephen Mann	3.	Simon Brew
4.	Sherwan Chowdhury	4.	Mario Creatura
5.	Humayun Kabir	5.	Oni Ovir
6.	Patricia Hay-Justice		
7.	<i>Vacancy</i>		

<b>6f. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 3</b>
In accordance with paragraph 2.5 of Part 3 of the Constitution, membership of this Sub-Committee is drawn from the Membership and reserves of the Licensing Committee and constituted as and when necessary by the Council Solicitor.

<b>6g. PENSION BOARD – Total Membership: 6</b>	
3 Employer representatives, 3 Employee Representatives & 1 independent Chair (non-voting)	
<b>Employer representative to be a Councillor</b>	Andrew Pelling
<b>Reserve Member</b>	<i>Vacancy</i>

<b>6h. PENSION COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 8</b> (8 Members & 3 Co-optees (one voting))			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 5		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Humayun Kabir (Chair)	1.	Luke Clancy
2.	Simon Hall (Vice-Chair)	2.	Yvette Hopley
3.	Clive Fraser	3.	Simon Brew
4.	Robert Canning		
5.	Patricia Hay-Justice		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Pat Clouder	1.	Robert Ward
2.	Karen Jewitt	2.	Vidhi Mohan
3.	Nina Degrad	3.	Steve Hollands
4.	Caragh Skipper		
5.	Callton Young		
<b>CO-OPTees:</b>			
1.	Charles Quaye		
2.	Gilli Driver (Voting)		
3.	Peter Howard		

<b>6i. PLANNING COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 10</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 6		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 4	
1.	Chris Clark (Chair)	1.	Jason Perry
2.	Leila Ben Hassel (Vice-chair)	2.	Scott Roche
3.	Paul Scott	3.	Gareth Streeter
4.	Clive Fraser	4.	Ian Parker
5.	Toni Letts		
6.	Callton Young		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Joy Prince	1.	Helen Redfern
2.	Jamie Audsley	2.	Michael Neal
3.	Bernadette Khan	3.	Badsha Quadir
4.	Caragh Skipper	4.	Jan Buttinger
5.	Andrew Pelling		
6.	Pat Clouder		

<b>6j. PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership 5</b>
Membership of this Sub-Committee is drawn from the Membership and reserves of the Planning Committee and constituted as and when necessary by the Council Solicitor.

<b>6k. SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 7</b> (6 Members & 1 Co-optee)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Sean Fitzsimons (Chair)	1.	Robert Ward (Vice-Chair)
2.	Leila Ben-Hassel (Deputy)	2.	Jeet Bains
3.	Jerry Fitzpatrick		
4.	Joy Prince		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Pat Clouder	1.	Richard Chatterjee
2.	Andrew Pelling	2.	Stuart Millson
3.	Mary Croos		
4.	Robert Canning		
<b>CO-OPTEE</b>			
1.	Crime and Disorder Representative (Vacant)		

<b>6I. SCRUTINY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE –Total</b>			
<b>Membership: 13</b>			
(8 Members & 5 Co-optees (1 non-voting))			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 5		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Sean Fitzsimons (Vice-Chair)	1.	Robert Ward (Chair)
2.	Bernadette Khan	2.	Sue Bennett
3.	Callton Young	3.	Gareth Streeter
4.	Jerry Fitzpatrick		
5.	Jamie Audsley		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Patsy Cummings	1.	Helen Redfern
2.	Mary Croos	2.	Margaret Bird
3.	Pat Clouder	3.	Andy Stranack
4.	Felicity Flynn		
5.	<i>Vacancy</i>		
<b>CO-OPTEES:</b>			
<b>1. Voting Governor Rep</b>		Geoff Hopper	
<b>2. Voting Governor Rep</b>		Paul O'Donnell	
<b>3. Voting Diocesan Rep</b>		Elaine Jones (Catholic Diocese)	
<b>4. Voting Diocesan Rep</b>		Leo Morrell	
<b>5. Non-voting Teachers Rep</b>		Dave Harvey	



<b>6m. SCRUTINY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 7</b> (6 Members & 1 Co-optee (non-voting))			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Sean Fitzsimons (Chair)	1.	Andy Stranack (Vice-Chair)
2.	Pat Clouder	2.	Scott Roche
3.	Andrew Pelling		
4.	Callton Young		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Toni Letts	1.	Helen Redfern
2.	Jerry Fitzpatrick	2.	Jan Buttinger
3.	Patsy Cummings		
4.	Clive Fraser		
<b>CO-OPTees (NON-VOTING)</b>			
1.	Gordon Kay (Healthwatch)		
Please note that one seat is allocated to a non-statutory non-voting Co-opted Member representative from Healthwatch (Croydon).			

<b>Please note that two representatives from Croydon will be required for the South West London Standing Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC). Where there is a specific reconfiguration a sub-committee will be drawn from this membership.</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1. Chair of Scrutiny	Sean Fitzsimons	1.	Andy Stranack

<b>6n. SCRUTINY STREETS, ENVIRONMENT AND HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 7</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Leila Ben-Hassel (Chair)	1.	Richard Chatterjee (Vice-Chair)
2.	Jamie Audsley	2.	Vidhi Mohan
3.	Caragh Skipper	3.	Luke Clancy
4.	Stephen Mann		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Jerry Fitzpatrick	1.	Michael Neal
2.	Karen Jewitt	2.	Jan Buttinger
3.	Robert Canning	3.	Oni Oviri
4.	David Wood		

<b>6o. ETHICS COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 8</b> (6 Members & 2 Non-Voting Independents)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Clive Fraser (Chair)	1.	Helen Redfern
2.	Pat Clouder (Vice-Chair)	2.	Simon Brew
3.	Joy Prince		
4.	Jerry Fitzpatrick		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Karen Jewitt	1.	Jeet Bains
2.	Pat Ryan	2.	Jan Buttinger
3.	Patricia Hay-Justice		
4.	Louisa Woodley		
<b>INDEPENDENT PERSONS (NON-VOTING):</b>			
1.	Ashok Kumar		
2.	Anne Smith		

<b>6p. HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (CROYDON) – Total Membership: 15</b> (for noting*)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 5		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Louisa Woodley (Chair)	1.	Yvette Hopley
2.	Alisa Flemming	2.	Margaret Bird
3.	Janet Campbell		
4.	Sherwan Chowdhury		
5.	Jane Avis		

<p>* Note that the Members appointments are for noting as they are made by the Leader of the Council.  Note: the Vice Chair is nominated by the CCG.  Please note that such Members are to include the Cabinet Member for Families, Health &amp; Social Care and the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning.</p>
<p><b>Other Membership includes:</b></p> <p>Executive Director of People (non-voting);  Director of Public Health (non-voting);  CCG Representative (voting);  Croydon University Hospital Chair (non-voting);  Croydon Voluntary Action (non-voting);  Croydon Health Services NHS Trust Chair (non-voting);  Healthwatch (Croydon) Representative (voting); and  South London &amp; Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust Representative (non-voting)</p>

<b>6q. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Total Membership: 6</b> Must include the Cabinet Member (job share) responsible for Traffic Management			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Stuart King (Chair)	1.	Simon Hoar
2.	Muhammad Ali (Vice-Chair)	2.	Jeet Bains
3.	Karen Jewitt		
4.	Pat Ryan		
<b>RESERVE MEMBERS</b>			
1.	Clive Fraser	1.	Ian Parker
2.	Jamie Audsley	2.	Luke Clancy
3.	Patricia Hay-Justice		
4.	David Wood		

**7. POLITICAL PARTY GROUP OFFICER APPOINTMENTS: For Noting**

<b>MAJORITY GROUP</b>	
<b>GROUP OFFICER</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Chief Whip	Clive Fraser
Group Secretary	Pat Clouder
Deputy Whips	Lelia Ben-Hassel
	Shafi Khan

<b>MINORITY GROUP</b>	
<b>GROUP OFFICER</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Chief Whip	Helen Redfern
Group Secretary	Simon Brew
Deputy Whip	Simon Brew

<b>8. CHAMPION ROLE APPOINTMENTS: For Noting</b>	
<b>ROLE</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
Borough Design Champion	Paul Scott
Champion for Autism	Jerry Fitzpatrick
Military Champion	Toni Letts
Fairtrade Champion	Clive Fraser
Heritage Champion	Joy Prince
Mental Health Champion	Janet Campbell
Animal Welfare Champion	Karen Jewitt
Dementia Champion	Louisa Woodley
Business Champion	Toni Letts
BAME Champion	Patsy Cummings
Co-op Champion	Clive Fraser
European Champion	Leila Ben-Hassel

**ANNUAL COUNCIL – 6 JULY 2020****Appointments to all other Panels, Working Groups and Outside Bodies**

<b>Appointments To:</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	London Councils	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	Local Government Association	<b>3</b>
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<b>4</b>	Consultative Bodies	<b>5 - 6</b>
<b>5</b>	Outside Bodies	<b>7 - 8</b>
<b>6</b>	Strategic Partnerships	<b>9</b>

<b>1. LONDON COUNCILS APPOINTMENTS: For Noting</b>	
<b>BODY</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
<b>London Councils Greater London Employment Forum</b>	1. Simon Hall
	2. Patsy Cummings (Deputy)
<b>London Councils Leaders Committee</b>	1. Tony Newman
	2. Alison Butler (Deputy)
	3. Stuart Collins (Deputy)
<b>London Councils Grants Committee</b> All MUST be Cabinet Members	1. Hamida Ali
	2. Oliver Lewis
	3. <i>Vacancy</i>
	4. <i>Vacancy</i>
	5. <i>Vacancy</i>
<b>London Councils Transport &amp; Environment Committee</b>	1. Stuart King
	2. Paul Scott
	3. <i>Vacancy</i>
	4. <i>Vacancy</i>
	5. <i>Vacancy</i>
<b>London Councils Pensions CIV Board</b>	1. Simon Hall
	2. <i>Vacancy</i>
	3. <i>Vacancy</i>
<b>Greater London Provincial Council</b>	1. Simon Hall

<b>London Councils Irish Members' Network*</b>
*please note that any Councillor can ask to be placed on the email news list.
Robert Canning
Toni Letts
Sean Fitzsimons
Pat Ryan

<b>2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS: For Noting</b>	
<b>2a. Local Government Association General Assembly</b> Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4 (1 voting, 3 non-voting)	
1. (Voting)	Tony Newman
2. (Non-Voting)	Alison Butler
3. (Non-Voting)	Stuart Collins
4. (Non-Voting)	Clive Fraser

<b>3. INTERNAL PANEL APPOINTMENTS: For Agreement</b>
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<b>3a. ADOPTION PANEL</b> Members to be appointed: 2 (Appointment ends in 2022)	
1.	Bernadette Khan
2.	Jerry Fitzpatrick

<b>3b. ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES REVIEW PANEL</b> Members to be appointed: 5 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3 <i>(to include Cabinet and Deputy Cabinet Member with responsibility for Health and Adult Social Care)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Janet Campbell (Chair)	1.	Yvette Hopley
2.	Jane Avis (Deputy)	2.	Margaret Bird
3.	Pat Clouder		

<b>3c. CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –</b> Members to be appointed: 7 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 5 <i>(Must include Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care and to include Shadow Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Alisa Flemming (Chair)	1.	Maria Gatland
2.	Shafi Khan (Deputy)	2.	Helen Redfern
3.	Bernadette Khan		
4.	Jerry Fitzpatrick		
5.	<i>Vacancy</i>		
<b>CO-OPTEES:</b>			
1. Virtual School Head			
2. LAC Nurse/ Doctor			
3. EMPIRE			
4. Care Leaver			
5. Foster Carer			
6. Health Commissioner			

<b>3d. CROYDON ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES USERS PANEL (CASSUP)</b>			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Janet Campbell (Chair)	1.	Yvette Hopley
2.	Jane Avis (Deputy)		

<b>3e. FOSTERING PANEL –</b> Members to be appointed: 2 (by convention)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 1		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Bernadette Khan	1.	Sue Bennett

<b>3f. MEMBERS' LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL –</b> Members to be appointed: 7 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Patsy Cumming (Chair)	1.	Helen Pollard
2.	Clive Fraser (Vice Chair)	2.	Helen Redfern
3.	Pat Clouder	3.	Simon Brew
4.	Alison Butler		



<b>3g. STAFF PARTNERSHIP PANEL</b> Members to be appointed: 4			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3 <i>(to include Cabinet Member responsible for staffing matters, any other Cabinet Member and one non-Executive Majority Party Member )</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Simon Hall	1.	Tim Pollard
2.	Manju Shahul-Hameed		
3.	Clive Fraser		

<b>4. CONSULTATIVE BODIES: For Agreement</b>
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<b>4a. CYCLE FORUM –</b> Members to be appointed: 3 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2 <i>(to include Cabinet Member or Deputy Cabinet Member for Transport &amp; Environment)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Clive Fraser (Chair)	1.	Simon Brew
2.	Muhammad Ali		

<b>4b. LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON PUBLIC TRANSPORT LIAISON PANEL –</b> Members to be appointed: 3 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2 <i>(to include Cabinet Member or Deputy Cabinet Member for Transport &amp; Environment)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Muhammad Ali (Chair)	1.	Simon Hoar
2.	Nina Degrad		

<b>4c. MOBILITY FORUM –</b> Members to be appointed: 3 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Pat Clouder	1.	Andy Stranack
2.	Karen Jewitt		

<b>4d. SCHOOLS FORUM</b>			
Members to be appointed: 2 (to be non-Cabinet or Deputy Cabinet Members as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 1		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1	
1.	Joy Prince	1.	Maria Gatland

<b>4e. STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)–</b>			
Members to be appointed: 6 (as per terms of reference)			
*Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning attends as an observer.			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Patricia Hay-Justice	1.	Richard Chatterjee
2.	Shafi Khan	2.	Lynne Hale
3.	Patsy Cummings	3.	Badsha Quadir

<b>4f. TENANTS AND LEASEHOLDERS PANEL –</b>			
Members to be appointed: 7 (as per terms of reference)			
Majority Group Members to be appointed: 4 <i>(to include Cabinet or Deputy Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 3	
1.	Caragh Skipper	1.	Lynne Hale
2.	Patricia Hay-Justice	2.	Richard Chatterjee
3.	Louisa Woodley	3.	Michael Neal
4.	<i>Vacancy</i>		

<b>5. OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS: For Agreement</b>	
<b>BODY</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
<b>Biggin Hill Airport Consultative Committee</b>	1. Toni Letts
<b>Church Tenements Charity</b>	1. Maddie Henson
	2. Toni Letts
	3. Jason Perry
<b>Coast to Capital Enterprise Partnership Ltd</b>	1. Tony Newman
	2. Manju Shahul-Hameed (nominated deputy)
<b>Coast to Capital Joint Committee</b>	1. Manju Shahul-Hameed
<b>Trustees of Coulsdon United Charities</b>	1. Tony Sales (until 15 December 2020)
	2. Anne Gledhill (until 15 December 2020)
<b>Croydon Almshouses – Relief in Need Charities</b>	1. Andrew Pelling
	2. Joy Prince
<b>Downlands Countryside Management Project</b>	1. Oliver Lewis
<b>Eleanor Shorter Fund</b>	1. David Wood
	2. Lynne Hale
<b>Frank Denning Memorial Charity</b>	1. Maddie Hanson
	2. Toni Letts
	3. Edward Handley
	4. Rev Stephen Day
	5. Ian Palmer
<b>Greater London Enterprise</b>	1. Manju Shahul-Hameed
<b>Harman Atwood Charity</b>	1. Lynne Hale
<b>London Road Safety Council</b> (formerly London Accident Prevention Council)	1. Andrew Pelling (Vice Chair)
	2. Robert Canning
<b>London Youth Games</b>	1. Oliver Lewis
	2. Badsha Quadir
<b>Mitcham Common Conservators</b> (one non-Councillor to be appointed)	1. Stuart King
	2. Andrew Pelling
	3. Nina Degrad
	4. John Cheetham (non-Councillor)

<b>South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust</b> (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Health)	1. Janet Campbell
	2. Louisa Woodley
<b>Woodmansterne Charities</b>	1. Luke Clancy

<p><b>ARMY RESERVE UNITS*</b> 1 Majority and 1 Minority Member or 2 Majority and 1 Minority Member</p> <p><i>*Please note that from 2015 TA units renamed Army Reserve Units</i></p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR</b></p>
<p><b>Greater London Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association</b></p>	
<p><b>C (Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry) Squadron, The Royal Yeomanry</b></p>	<p>1. Robert Canning 2. Sue Bennett 3. Vacancy</p>
<p><b>J Troop, 31 Signal Squadron - Middlesex Yeomanry and Princess Louise's Kensington</b></p>	<p>1. Karen Jewitt 2. Nina Degrad 3. Steve Hollands</p>
<p><b>Mortar Platoon, B Company, 4th Battalion The Parachute Regiment</b></p>	<p>1. Karen Jewitt 2. Nina Degrad 3. Jason Perry</p>
<p><b>508 (Croydon) HQ Sqn Royal Logistic Corp, 151 Regiment Royal Logistic Corp</b></p>	<p>1. Toni Letts 2. Stephen Mann 3. Simon Brew</p>
<p><b>150 Recovery Company, 103 Battalion Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers</b></p>	<p>1. Oliver Lewis 2. Jane Avis 3. Helen Pollard</p>

<p><b>SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD –</b></p>			
<p>Members to be appointed: 3 (as per terms of reference, two majority Members, including the Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon &amp; Communities, one minority Councillor, namely the Minority group representative for Community, Safety &amp; Justice )</p>			
<p>Majority Group Members to be appointed: 2</p>		<p>Minority Group Members to be appointed: 1</p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>Hamida Ali</p>	<p>1.</p>	<p>Mario Creatura</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>David Wood</p>		

**6. CROYDON CONGRESS:****6a. SAFER CROYDON PARTNERSHIP –**

Total Number of Appointments: 5

Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3 <i>(to include Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon &amp; Communities)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2	
1.	Hamida Ali (Chair)	1.	Mario Creatura
2.	David Wood (Deputy)	2.	Andy Stranack
3.	Patsy Cummings		

**6b. CHILDREN & FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP –**

Total Number of Appointments: 5

Majority Group Members to be appointed: 3 <i>(to include Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning)</i>		Minority Group Members to be appointed: 2 <i>(to include Shadow Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning)</i>	
1.	Alisa Flemming (Chair)	1.	Maria Gatland
2.	Shafi Khan	2.	Sue Bennett
3.	Jerry Fitzpatrick		

**6c LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

The Leader plus the Chairs of Partnerships, the Chair of Health & Wellbeing Board and the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Health.

## Croydon Council

For General Release

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b> <b>6 JULY 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>RESOLUTION TO EXTEND 6 MONTH RULE</b> <b>SECTION 85(1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>JACQUELINE HARRIS BAKER</b> <b>COUNCIL SOLICITOR &amp; MONITORING OFFICER</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR SIMON HALL</b> <b>CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:</b>	
The Council is required under the Local Government Act 1972 to consider any request received for an extension of the six month councillor attendance provisions.	
<b>FINANCIAL IMPACT</b>	
There is no direct financial impact arising from this report. The Council is required to consider the formal request for an extension of time.	

### 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is recommended to:

- 1.1. Approve all Members' absence from meetings pursuant to section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- 1.2. Agree an extension of time for all Members for a period expiring on 31 December 2020.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to seek authorisation of the Council to the absence of all Members from meetings of the authority from the date of this meeting for a period of 5 months in order that any Members not being able or having the opportunity to attend a qualifying meeting prior to and during the period of the Pandemic are not at risk of disqualification.

### 3. DETAIL OF YOUR REPORT

- 3.1 As a result of the Coronavirus Crisis, the Council was forced to cancel a number of scheduled meetings to comply with the social distancing requirements and prevent the spread of the virus which has restricted the opportunity for members to attend scheduled meetings.
- 3.2 On 25 March 2020 the Coronavirus Act 2020 received royal assent and section 78 introduced regulation making powers with regard to meetings and proceedings of local authorities. The Secretary of State has now issued regulations - the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 ('the Regulations') which introduces flexibility to hold meetings remotely.
- 3.3 Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that "*if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of that authority*".

For the purposes of the legislation, "*meeting of the authority*" includes Committees and Sub-Committees, joint committees, joint boards or other bodies where the functions of the Authority are discharged or that were appointed to advise the Authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions. There is therefore a risk that Members may fall foul of these provisions due to the limitation on holding meetings or as a result of being unable to attend such meetings that are held due to sickness arising from the virus itself.

- 3.4 It is clear from the Regulations that attendance at a qualifying meeting of the authority, as defined above, via remote access will count as qualifying attendance for the purposes of the 6 months rule. To satisfy the requirements within the Regulations a Member but be able to 'hear' and 'be heard' and where possible 'see' and 'be seen' by other Members at the meeting and members of the public including those attending to exercise a right to speak. However, meetings are at present only being scheduled where there is urgent essential business to transact leading to a reduced opportunity for attendance at meetings even in a remote setting for some Members.
- 3.5 The Council can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six month period. This cannot be approved retrospectively.
- 3.6 In the circumstances given that not all Members may have the opportunity to attend a qualifying meeting during the period of the Pandemic due to technical and other limitations this could put some Members at risk of inadvertent disqualification, although it is not possible to accurately predict how many Members would be affected. In order to avoid this eventuality the Monitoring Officer advises that in the circumstances it would be reasonable for full Council to grant a general dispensation in respect of the non-attendance of Members at meetings. It is therefore requested that Council consider this matter and both



agree the reason for non-attendance and an extension of the six month rule to afford all Members an opportunity to attend meetings.

- 3.7 Any extension agreed by Council would not prevent members from returning to meetings at any time sooner.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

The Monitoring Officer has consulted all Members regarding this matter.

#### **5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 There is no direct financial impact arising from this report.

*(Approved by: Ian Geary Head of Finance, Resources & Accountancy on behalf of the Director of Finance, Investment and Risk (S151 Officer)*

#### **6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 enables a Local Authority to approve the reasons(s) for non-attendance of a member at any meeting of the authority through a period of six consecutive months provided that approval is given by the authority before the expiry of the six month period.
- 6.2 Approval of a reason for a Member's non-attendance is a non-executive function and reserved for full council.
- 6.3 Once any Member loses office, through failure to attend for the six month period the disqualification cannot be overcome by the Member subsequently resuming attendance nor can retrospective approval of the Council be sought for an extension of time.

*Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance & Deputy Monitoring Officer.*

#### **7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

- 7.1 There are no HR implications arising from the report for Croydon Council Employees or staff.

*Approved by: Jennifer Sankar, Head of HR Place Department on behalf of the Director of Human Resources*

#### **8. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

- 8.1 The Council must in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who

share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010).

8.2 There are no anticipated equality impacts.

(Approved by: Yvonne Okiyo Equalities Manager.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

9.1 There are no anticipated environmental impacts.

## **10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT**

10.1 There are no anticipated crime and disorder reduction impacts.

## **11. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

11.1 Once a request has been received to extend a period of office for a Member beyond the six month period of non-attendance the Council is required to consider the request. The Council could resolve not to approve the reason for absence and waiver of the requirements of the 1972 Act. Refusal to agree the recommendation would result in the Member being disqualified from office and a casual vacancy being declared.

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**CONTACT OFFICER:** Jacqueline Harris-Baker, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer. (ext. 62328)

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None