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CABINET

Monday 2 October 2017 at 5.00 pm

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Matthew Bennett
Councillor Jennifer
Brathwaite
Councillor Jackie Meldrum
Councillor Lib Peck
Councillor Jane Pickard
Councillor Mohammed
Seedat
Councillor Imogen Walker
Councillor Sonia Winifred

Portfolio:

Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Jobs
Cabinet Member for Housing & Environment
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Leader of the Council (Chair)
Cabinet Member for Families and Young People
Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities
(job-share)
Deputy Leader of the Council (Finance & Resources)
Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture

Apologies for absence

Councillor Jane Edbrooke and Councillor Paul McGlone

Also present (non-voting):

Councillor Donatus Anyanwu Lead Member for Community Relations and Neighbourhood
Lead for Brixton
Councillor Jim Dickson Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities
(job-share)

1. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities (job-share), Councillor Jim Dickson, declared that his company (Four Communications) had worked with Port of London Authority which had submitted a response to the consultation for the proposed Lambeth Development Viability Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to be considered at agenda item six. He would therefore remove himself from the committee during the consideration of this item. Councillor Dickson was also a non-voting member of the committee.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 03 July 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

3. LAMBETH ARCHIVES OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred, introduced the report and explained the context of the Lambeth Archive Options Appraisal. She noted that the current Archives were not fit for purpose and difficult to get to for many local residents. The proposed scheme would relocate the Lambeth Archives Service to 301 Kennington Lane and in doing so secure an important local resource for future generations.

The Lead Commissioner for Strategic Housing, Regeneration and Communities, Donna Wiggins, then provided further information about the proposals. She explained that the Lambeth Archives would become a destination for local discovery and seek to generate revenue. Many different options for the future location of the Archives had been considered before arriving at the proposal to move to 301 Kennington Lane, either as a standalone facility or as part of mixed use development. The council would continue to work with local groups to encourage partnerships, outreach and digitalisation of records. Finally she noted that Recommendation 5 should be removed from the report as it had been added in error.

The Chair of the Lambeth Local History Forum, Bill Linskey addressed the committee and said that the group fully endorsed the recommendations. The Lambeth Local History Forum had been consulted on the proposals and would continue to support the process as a key stakeholder. The Archives were an important cultural and historical resource for residents and this decision would allow for the establishment of a long-term, sustainable local archives service.

Cabinet members provided the following comments:

- Thanks were expressed to Councillor Winifred who had worked with officers and stakeholders to deliver proposals roundly supported by local people.
- The consultation process had been extensive and productive.

In response to questions from members, the Director of Finance, Christina Thompson, added that consideration would be given to whether the site was eligible for capital funding. Additional premises costs of £17,000 per annum would be funded through corporate contingencies and additional one-off costs totalling approximately £15,000 which would be managed through existing service budgets. In the long term there budget would likely need to be increased.

The Chair praised the thorough consultation process and noted the importance of continued engagement with local stakeholders towards the delivery of the Archives. She then thanked councillors, officers and archives staff for their dedication and hard work.

RESOLVED:

1. To agree that £90,000 be allocated from the Community Infrastructure Levy to develop a scheme to relocate the Lambeth Archives Service to 301 Kennington Lane as a standalone facility or as part of mixed use development on the site.
2. For the Libraries and Archives Service in consultation with key stakeholders, including representatives from the Lambeth Local History Forum, other council departments and the National Archives, to produce a business case and development strategy for the service.
3. To delegate authority to the Strategic Director Resources and the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods and Growth in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture to identify the necessary capital and revenue budgets to deliver the implementation of the above.
4. To work with the local community to agree the principles for the future of the Minet Library site.
5. To agree that whilst the Archives remains at the Minet Library that the library opens as a self-service resource facility with trained library support for a minimum of two hours a day from the Hub Library team in accordance with the proposal set out in paragraphs 2.47 and 2.48 of the report.

4. LAMBETH EQUALITY COMMISSION IMPLEMENTATION

The Leader of the Council and Chair of the Equality Commission, Councillor Lib Peck, introduced the report and provided a summary of the Commission's work and goals. Ten of Lambeth's most established activists and community leaders had dedicated a huge amount of time and effort to the Commission and developed the list of recommendations now subject to Cabinet approval. Some recommendations would be directed at the Government, others would be put to the Mayor of London and the remainder would be actioned by the council itself.

Councillor Peck noted a number of significant issues that the recommendations aimed to impact upon. These included:

- Tackling underachievement amongst children and young people, in particular Black Caribbean children. The new Lambeth Schools Partnership would be utilised here.
- Tackling low pay and poor working conditions.
- Increasing representation of target communities in local workforces at all levels. The council was to lead by example and take action to achieve more diverse representation in senior leadership roles.
- Reduce the impact of crime on young people; in particular knife crime.

Various levers of implementation would be required, including through Lambeth First, Councillor Winifred's work and via ongoing work of the Commission who would now meet on a quarterly basis. The Chair expressed profound gratitude to the commissioners who had contributed to an outstanding piece of work.

The Acting Head of Equalities, Jean Taylor, added some additional context about the consultation process and resulting recommendations.

Cabinet members then made the following comments:

- This was a timely report, made all the more important in the wake of the Grenfell disaster. The council needed to recognise its achievements on equalities and work to improve standards further.

Councillors, officers and members of the public all had an important role to play.

- The report was a living paper that would be continually monitored, challenged and reviewed. The monitoring process would need to be robust.
- The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care had attended one of the sessions and was pleased to see the new Civic Centre and Town Hall would have many improvements for people with disabilities. The recommendations also championed DisabledGo.
- A separate report would be produced to assess the council's current organisational approach to, and performance on, a range of key disability issues. It would also set out actions to address any areas of weakness, such as the quality of the public realm on council estates.
- Early intervention and prevention was crucial for reducing inequality. The work of the Commission had already guided a range of new strategies that were currently being implemented in Children's Services.
- It was pleasing to see that English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) had been highlighted within the recommendations. The council needed to lobby government for more funding here and should also work with other organisations to develop a holistic approach to ESOL services.
- The Equalities Commission report had already been used as a resource at a jobs fair on a council estate. There were many positive stories emerging from the community.

The Chair again paid tribute to the all of the commissioners and officers who had worked on the Commission; in particular to Jean Taylor for her work developing the report and recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve and accept the recommendations to the council set out in the Equality Commission recommendations report (outlined in Appendix A of the report).
2. To note the recommendations to partners and national government made by the Commission (and outlined in Appendix B of the report), and approve plans to encourage take-up of these.
3. To authorise officers to develop an implementation plan and to agree prioritisation in the first six months of implementation.
4. To accept the recommendations on governance and performance monitoring set out in this paper

5. LAMBETH LOCAL PLAN REVIEW AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Jobs, Councillor Matthew Bennett, introduced the report and noted that whilst this was a limited review of the Local Plan, it would still take a considerable amount of time to complete, with an anticipated implementation date of 2020. The first round of consultation would take place immediately and ward councillors had been asked to update local community groups and Tenant Resident Associations to encourage a wide cohort of people to engage with the process.

Cabinet members then made the following comments:

- Policies included in the Local Plan could potentially last for decades and thorough consideration was required of the needs of people with disabilities. The quality of the public realm had a large impact on the lives of disabled people and many implications for adult social care services.
- The consultation strategy was pivotal to the review and officers had already produced commendable plans. These had been put before the council's Equalities Panel.

The Delivery Lead for Planning Strategy and Policy, Catherine Carpenter, noted that this was an opportunity to ensure that all the existing policy within the Local Plan was up to date in relation to design for disabled people. The Acting Head of Equalities, Jean Taylor, had provided valuable advice towards the design of the consultation exercise.

The Chair encouraged all local people and community groups to engage in the process before thanking officers for their work.

RESOLVED:

1. To agree the process and timetable for the partial review of the Lambeth Local Plan summarised in paragraph 2.20 of the report.
2. To agree a first round of public consultation on issues for the partial review of the Lambeth Local Plan applying the consultation and engagement plan set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
3. To agree the Local Development Scheme at Appendix 3 of the report.

6. LAMBETH DEVELOPMENT VIABILITY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Having declared an interest, the Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities (job-share), Councillor Jim Dickson, vacated the committee for the duration of this item.

The Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Jobs, Councillor Matthew Bennett, introduced the report and noted that 43% of new-build homes in Lambeth last year had been affordable. The proposed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) demonstrated the council's commitment to transparency and would allow members of public scrutiny of developers' viability assessments where the amount of affordable housing proposed in a scheme fell short of policy requirements.

Cabinet welcomed the proposed SPD as an important change to local planning policy. The Chair reiterated that 43% of new-build homes in the borough last year had been affordable. This was a considerable achievement and officers were thanked for their work.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the representations received in response to public consultation on the Draft Lambeth Development Viability SPD and subsequent Revised Draft Lambeth Development Viability SPD; and to note officers' assessment of the representations set out in the Consultation Statement in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. To note how it is envisaged the Lambeth SPD, if adopted, and the Mayor's Affordable Housing and Viability Supplementary Planning

- Guidance (August 2017) would work together.
3. To adopt the Final Draft Lambeth Development Viability SPD set out in Appendix 3 of the report.
 4. To instruct officers to take the necessary steps to publicise its decision in the event that Cabinet resolves to adopt the Final Draft Lambeth Development Viability SPD.

The meeting ended at 17:54.

CHAIR
CABINET
Monday 13 November 2017

Date of Despatch: Friday 6 October 2017

Call-in Date: Friday 13 October 2017

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