

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2022 starting at 7.00 pm

Present:

Kate Lymer (Vice-Chair, in the Chair),
Councillors Yvonne Bear, Nicholas Bennett MA J.P.,
Christopher Marlow and Angela Page

Also Present:

Councillor Simon Jeal

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aisha Cuthbert, Colin Smith and Diane Smith. Councillor Simon Fawthrop joined the meeting online.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 QUESTIONS

Eight questions had been received for written reply – the answers are set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

4 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 MARCH 2022

In minute 388 the PDS Committee was corrected to the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on 16th March 2022.

RESOLVED that, subject to this correction, the minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2022 be confirmed.

5 EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Report No CSD22066

The report allowed the Leader of the Council to announce the Members appointed to various Portfolio Holder, Executive Assistant and other roles to help with the administration of executive business during 2022/23. The schedule of appointments is attached as Appendix B to these minutes.

RESOLVED that

(1) The appointment of Councillors to serve on the Executive and responsibility for Portfolios, as allocated by the Leader of the Council, be noted.

(2) The appointment of Councillors as Executive Assistants by the Leader of the Council be noted.

(3) The appointment by the Leader of the Council of Members to serve on the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Fostering Panel for 2022/23 be noted.

6 HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Report HPR2022/026

The Executive noted the Government announcement regarding the Household Support Fund (HSF) agreed proposals for the allocation and distribution of the HSF.

Members discussed the opportunities to reach people in need, including those in fuel poverty and dependant on pre-payment meters. Options for fuel vouchers or cards were very limited, and the Council did not have sufficient information on households in fuel poverty, but Age UK were able to assist with identifying these households. Council officers would continue to explore this.

The report had been scrutinised at the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee at its meeting on 24th May 2022 and the Committee had supported the proposals.

RESOLVED that

(1) It is noted that Bromley Council's allocation for the Household Support Fund (HSF) is £1,868k.

(2) The full utilisation of this ringfenced grant, in 2022/23, be approved as detailed in paragraph 3.8 of the report.

(3) Any final changes be delegated to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Renewal, Recreation & Housing and Resources, Commissioning and Contracts Management.

7 CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER ISSUES REFERRED FROM THE EXECUTIVE, RESOURCES AND CONTRACTS POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no additional items referred from Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee.

8 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006 AND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

RESOLVED that the Press and public be excluded during consideration of the items of business referred to below as it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the Press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information.

**The following summaries
refer to matters involving exempt information**

9 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 MARCH 2022

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2022 be confirmed.

The Meeting ended at 7.12 pm.

Chairman

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EXECUTIVE

25th May 2022

Questions from Members of the Public for written reply

1. From Jamie Devine to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

According to the ECS risk register, climate change has a risk rating of 8 - medium risk. It is also deemed to be 'unlikely' but have 'major' impacts, yet ranks lower than loss of parking revenue. Kindly publish the methodology used to assess the identified risks in the ECS register.

Reply:

The methodology used to assess Risks can be found in the March 2022 Risk Register covering report:

[http://cdslbb/documents/s50097176/ECS%20Risk%20Register.pdf?\\$LO\\$=1](http://cdslbb/documents/s50097176/ECS%20Risk%20Register.pdf?LO=1).

The last page of the report entitled 'RISK REGISTER REPORT (ES18037): RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE SUMMARY' shows how all Council risks are assessed.

2. From Jamie Devine to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Do climate change impacts like the following not warrant an urgent reassessment of the ECS register? 'Parts of eastern Antarctica have seen temperatures hover 70 degrees (40 Celsius) above normal for three days and counting'. 'In 2003, a major European heatwave across 15 European countries killed over 72,000 people, with the biggest impacts in Italy and France (20,089 and 19,490 deaths respectively).'

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2022/03/18/antarctica-heat-wave-climate-change>

"Human Cost of Disasters" (from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction), 2003 European heatwave: see page 11 of the report, first paragraph of section 2.5.

Reply:

The ECS Risk Register is reviewed for each ECS PDS Committee meeting, and activities are scrutinised in a regular and systematic manner. The Council will continue to maintain a close watch on developing climate-related issues/impacts and amend the risk register accordingly.

3. From Sam Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In answer to a question posed to the full Council on 28th Feb, the Council stated that it will work with Govt to “reduce national GHG emissions to net zero as soon as practicable”. The UK Govt has written into law a target date for reducing emissions by 78% over 1990 levels by 2035. Please confirm that the Council will be adhering to this target for its borough-wide emissions?

Reply:

The Carbon Management Team are members of several London Councils steering/working groups who are working hard to develop a collaborative pan-London approach to delivering seven climate priorities for achieving the Mayor of London’s ambitious net zero emissions target.

At a borough level, the Council continues to develop its approach to tackling emissions and is working with a wide range of borough stakeholders to deploy more and more carbon/energy reduction initiatives.

4. From Sam Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Climate change is singled out as the biggest risk to UK food production in the future, according to the first UK Food Security Report. In 2020 the UK’s wheat harvest fell by 40% due to drought and heavy rainfall. What measures are the council taking locally to improve food security?

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1041623/United_Kingdom_Food_Security_Report_2021_16dec2021b.pdf

Reply:

The Carbon Management Team will be presenting a report to the ECS PDS Committee later in the year, specifically about signposting residents, businesses and community groups to various grants, services and other initiatives aimed at energy savings and reducing CO2 emissions. Raising awareness and disseminating information on important topics – such as consumption emissions and sustainable food practices - will help support borough stakeholders to make lifestyle changes.

5. From Dr Stephanie Williamson to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In answer to a question to the Executive on 12 January 2022, the Council stated that it is part of the Renewables for London Steering Group and is developing a delivery plan which includes supporting decentralised energy systems. Please clarify what energy systems are being considered and when will this plan be available for public scrutiny?

Reply:

The Renewable Power for London Action Plan can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/our-key-themes/climate-change>

6. From Dr Stephanie Williamson to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In the NZAP (p45) the Council says that as part of its borough-wide net zero plans it will be placing, "...emphasis on partnerships and collaboration between all stakeholders in Bromley and beyond..." What is the Council's view on setting up a Youth Climate Panel, as Faversham Council have done, to engage young people in the decision-making process?

Reply:

The Council actively engages with a wide range of stakeholders and recognises that the views and involvement of young people can play an important role in helping to shape climate change action.

7. From Brayley Small to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

In relation to greenhouse gas emissions I understand that the council is developing a tool to aid decision-making to be in line with the Social Value Act. What specific provisions are there in the Act that facilitate the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions?

Reply:

The Social Value Act requires public sector commissioners in England to consider how they could improve the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of their local area through their procurement activities. Reducing carbon emissions is critical in mitigating the worst effects of climate change. A procurement tool is being developed to help embed further environmental considerations/criteria within the tender process which includes the monitoring of carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases.

8. From Brayley Small to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

The Govt has committed to making half of all journeys in towns and cities to be cycled or walked by 2030. What plans does the Council have in place to achieve this goal?

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2021/02/half-of-all-urban-journeys-must-be-cycled-or-walked-within-ten-years-confirms-u-k-government-forbes/>

Reply:

Town centre users will arrive there by many means, on foot, by bike, car or public transport and will be dependent on many factors, outside the control of the council, including the reason why a person is visiting the centre.

In Bromley and Orpington much of the town centre is already only accessible on foot.

The council has introduced has created ten pedestrian or shared crossings in the last few years and has a comprehensive cycle training programme.

Executive Appointments

The Executive

Leader	Cllr Colin Smith
Deputy Leader and Children, Education & Families	Cllr Kate Lymer
Adult Care & Health	Cllr Diane Smith
Public Protection and Enforcement	Cllr Angela Page
Renewal, Recreation & Housing	Cllr Yvonne Bear
Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management	Cllr Christopher Marlow
Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces	Cllr Aisha Cuthbert
Transport, Highways and Road Safety	Cllr Nicholas Bennett

Executive Assistants

Adult Care & Health	Cllr Mike Botting
Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces	Cllr Thomas Turrell

Health and Wellbeing Board

Cllr David Jefferys (Chairman)
Cllr Robert Evans (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Yvonne Bear
Cllr Mike Botting
Cllr Will Connolly
Cllr Chris Price
Cllr Diane Smith
Cllr Thomas Turrell

Fostering Panel

Cllr Kira Gabbert
Cllr Hannah Gray
Cllr Pauline Tunnicliffe

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