

## **Report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet**

This is my report as the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet. It is an overview of the main business considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 15 July 2020.

### **1. Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025**

1.1 We considered a report on the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025.

1.2 The Strategy sets out how the Council will tackle and prevent homelessness in the borough with six key priorities. It is based upon the findings of an extensive Homelessness Review, feedback from two stakeholder events held in 2019, extensive feedback from local partners from the statutory and voluntary sectors, and responses from a six week public consultation which ran from December 2019 to January 2020.

1.3 We approved the Strategy as appended to the report.

### **2. Provisional Capital Outturn report 2019/20**

2.1 We considered a report on the provisional capital outturn spend for 2019/20. The majority of the £153.7m underspend related to property development schemes and the remainder to Corporate ICT projects. The proposed capital carry forward of £76.5m included £76.4m for the development of Oast House and various other capital schemes.

2.2 We agreed to note the report and approved the capital carry forward of £76,525,900.

### **3. Provisional Revenue Outturn report 2019/20**

3.1 We considered a report on the provisional revenue outturn for 2019/20. We noted a surplus for the year of £4.939m, of which £0.204m related to proposed carry forward items with £0.249m set aside in the General Fund Reserve, resulting in a net balanced budget.

3.2 We agreed to note the provisional revenue outturn for 2019/20 and approved the revenue carry forwards of £204,200 and the transfer to reserves for 2019/20.

### **4. Treasury Management Annual Report**

4.1 We considered a report on the performance of the treasury management function and noted the Treasury Outturn position for 2019-20 and the financial environment in global markets, as detailed in the report.

## **5. Replacement heating/cooling systems at 3 Roundwood Avenue, Stockley Park**

- 5.1 We considered a report on the urgent need to undertake works at 3 Roundwood Avenue, Stockley Park following the unexpected mechanical failure of the main chiller and boilers.
- 5.2 We noted that the building is fully let with repair and maintenance costs recoverable through a service charge. The proposal before us was that the Council forward funds the works, given their scale, and recovers the costs from the tenants via the service charge over the next 18 months. The works will greatly enhance the future potential for securing new lettings in the building.
- 5.3 We agreed to the expenditure of £271,600 for the forward funding of works to replace the central plant (chiller and boiler system) at 3 Roundwood Avenue.
- 5.4 We also approved the appointment of contractors for the works following a competitive tender process and authorised the Group Head of Corporate Governance to enter into any legal documentation necessary to formalise the appointments.

## **6. Licensing Fees**

- 6.1 We considered a report on the amendment to fees which had been missed from the February Cabinet Fees and Charges report and the introduction of a pavement licensing fee.
- 6.2 As part of the coronavirus business recovery plan, the Business and Planning Bill will make temporary provision for the application for a pavement licence to permit the placement of furniture on part of the highway adjacent to a premises. This will allow the licence-holder to sell or serve food or drink. The Council is able to recover the costs it incurs to process the licence to a maximum £100 per licence.
- 6.3 We approved the annual licensing fees for street traders and private hire driver re-testing, the correction to the breakdown of HMO licensing fees and a new fee of £100 for the provision of pavement licences.
- 6.4 We also noted that HMO licensing fees are to be reviewed to ensure that charges reflect costs incurred and value for money.

**Councillor John Boughtflower**  
*Leader of the Council*

**30 July 2020**