

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

26 FEBRUARY 2019

(7:30 pm - 11:10 pm)

The Mayor (Councillor Thay Thayalan)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Olivia Boulton)

Councillors

Zain Abbas	Lesley Heap
Sushila Abraham	Alison Holt
Stephanie Archer	Jason Hughes
Roy Arora	Caroline Kerr
Kim Bailey	Andreas Kirsch
Tricia Bamford	Katrina Lidbetter
* Rowena Bass	Rebekah Moll
Mark Beynon	Maria Netley
* Fiona Boulton	Munir Ravalia
Tim Cobbett	Dave Ryder-Mills
David Cunningham	Anita Schaper
Emily Davey	Malcolm Self
Kevin Davis	Nicola Sheppard
Lorraine Dunstone	* Christine Stuart
Mark Durrant	Sharron Falchikov-Sumner
Simon Edwards	John Sweeney
Sam Foulder-Hughes	* Margaret Thompson
Ed Fram	Jon Tolley
Hilary Gander	Olly Wehring
Ian George	Diane White
Dennis Goodship	Annette Wookey
Liz Green	Yogan Yoganathan
Jaesung Ha	Sharon Young

* Absent

The Mayor's Assistant Chaplain, Sheikh Abdesamad, of Kingston Mosque, opened the meeting with prayers.

72. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Rowena Bass, Fiona Boulton, Christine Stuart and Margaret Thompson.

73. Declarations of Interest

The Mayor advised that the Monitoring Officer had granted a dispensation to all Members to vote on the Budget and Council Tax item, on the grounds that this item unusually spans the entirety of the Council's activity and consequently, it is more likely that a Member may find themselves with interests which may arguably be regarded as a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest which would preclude them, otherwise, from participating in the Budget debate.

74. Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

75. Mayor's Announcements

New Year's Honours

The Mayor congratulated all those who live or work in the Royal Borough who were honoured in the New Year's Honours list, including the Council's Chief Executive, Mr Ian Thomas – who has been made a Commander of the British Empire for his outstanding contribution to local government and children's services in his previous authorities. The Mayor took the opportunity to welcome Mr Thomas to his first meeting of full Council.

Mayor's Charity fundraising

The Mayor announced forthcoming events including:

- A Quiz Night on Friday 15 March at St John's Primary School, Portland Road, Kingston at 7pm
- A Riverside Ramble on Saturday 30 March - a leisurely two mile stroll through Kingston learning about many of the most important heritage sites in the borough.
- The Mayor's Charity Ball on Friday 26 April taking place on Raven's Ait Island 7pm - midnight.

76. Petitions

Two petitions were submitted by members of the public as follows:

- (i) A petition relating to the Fishponds Park in Surbiton was submitted by Mr Bob Phillips which requested: *"The Surbiton Branch of the Labour Party demands that Kingston Council invest in a professional engineering project to repair the Fishponds water pumps. Kingston Council must then allocate funds to maintain a healthy wildlife environment thereafter."* The hard copy of this petition received 263 eligible signatures and an online version of the petition had collected 577 eligible signatures on the Change.Org petition site. As the petition had received over 500 signatures in total, in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme, it would be eligible for debate at a forthcoming meeting of full Council.
- (ii) A petition relating to Children's Centres was submitted by Ms Jenny Lister. The hard copy of this petition received 234 eligible signatures and an online version of the petition had collected 345 eligible signatures on the e-petitions facility on the Council's website. As the petition had received over 500 signatures in total, in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme, it would be eligible for debate at a forthcoming meeting of full Council. The wording of the petition was as follows:

"We strongly oppose the proposed closures of half of the children's centres within the borough of Kingston. We fervently believe that the changes in how the remainder operate, including the removal of sessions into the community will not be sufficient to meet local need and will raise serious safeguarding concerns. We insist that the children's centres remain open."

In the event of closures, we demand financial investment ensuring that:

- *The remaining centres can be fully staffed;*
- *Each centre has a full time member of staff available to parents throughout the week;*
- *The remaining centres are able to meet the needs of a greater number of families;*
- *Sessions currently being held continue to run within the children's centre buildings;*
- *Any sessions held in alternative local venues must guarantee that:*
 - a. the general public cannot access families;*
 - b. parents can converse with staff privately in a separate room; and*
 - c. there is wheelchair access.*

We ask that the Council seriously consider the detrimental impact that the proposed changes would have for many families and that the investment in our children and their futures should be a priority."

77. Medium Term Financial Plan 2019-20 to 2022-23 and Detailed Budget and Council Tax 2019-20 **Appendix A**

[Finance and Contracts Committee – 14 February 2019 - Appendix B]

To enable the Council to approve the budget and set the Council Tax for 2019/20, the Council considered a report (at Appendix A of the agenda), in association with the 'Budget Report 2019/20 to 2022/23' pack which had been published and circulated separately to Members on 21 January.

The Budget Report pack included detailed information in the following Annexes:

- Annex 1 - Budget Risk 2019/20
- Annex 2 - Reconciliation of 2018/19 Budget to proposed 2019/20 Budget
- Annex 3 - Statutory Council Tax Calculation
- Annex 4 - Statutory Parking and Traffic Accounts
- Annex 5 - Budget Growth 2019/20 to 2022/23
- Annex 6 - Budget Reductions (Savings) 2019/20 to 2022/23
- Annex 7 - Summary of budget by Service / Function
- Annex 8 - Summary of budget by expenditure type
- Annex 9 - Flexible use of capital receipts strategy
- Annex 10 - HRA Budget
- Annex 11 - Capital Strategy
- Annex 12 - Treasury Management

The Budget proposals for the 2019/20 financial year included the following key features:

- Growth and investment in services to meet our key priorities and demand pressures of £7.182m
- The identification of £12.099m of revenue savings.
- An average council tax at band D of £1,551.19, a 4.99 percent increase in the Council Tax set by Kingston Council including the Adult Social Care precept.
- An increase in the band D Council Tax set by Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London, for Greater London Authority services to £320.51, an increase of 8.9% on the previous year.

- An in-year budget contingency of £445k to provide additional prudent cover in light of increasing service demand risks and manage any pressures and service issues created by the UK exit arrangements from the European Union.
- An increased general fund reserve of £16.592m for 2019/20, an increase of £3.5m on this year's figure of £13.092m to ensure prudent cover for managed risks.
- An estimated total of £31m of reserves, including £10m of earmarked reserves available for specific purposes in 2019/20 including increasing the resources available to invest in transforming the Council to meet the continuing financial and service demand challenges.
- A General Fund Capital Programme to provide infrastructure investment in Kingston. The capital programme over four years from 2019/20 will be £168m.
- The provision of £22.849m of resource, the full government allocation, for Special Educational Needs Services for Kingston.
- A Budget designed support the Council in meeting the significant challenges it faces and ensuring services for its residents and some of our most vulnerable communities are protected against a backdrop of increasing demand in terms of volume and complexity and decreasing resources available to fund those services.

In accordance with the Local Government Act (2003) Section 25, the report includes the report of the Council's Chief Financial Officer (as defined by section 151 of Local Government Act 1972) on the "robustness" of the financial estimates which have been used in calculating the Council Tax for 2019/20 and the adequacy of the level of reserves. Assurance was provided that risk has been appropriately managed and that there is a legitimate expectation that likely eventualities will be provided for within the budget.

Service specific budget proposals had been discussed at the Strategic Housing and Planning Committee (29 January), the Community Engagement Committee (5 February 2019), the Children's & Adults Care & Education Committee (7 February) and the Environment and Sustainable Transport Committee (12 February), and with consideration of the overall draft budget by the Finance and Contracts Committee (on 14 February) which had made the appropriate recommendations to Council. The report to the Finance and Contracts Committee was attached to the report to Council as **Annex 1** which in turn had three Annexes:

- Annex A - Pay Policy
- Annex B - Schools Budget report which in turn had three Enclosures (Enclosure 1 = Total Dedicated Schools Grant; Enclosure 2 = Schools Formula Rates; Enclosure 3 = Schools Allocations)
- Annex C - Council Tax calculation

Attached at **Annex 2** to the report to Council was the late material which had been reported to the Finance and Contracts Committee, including comments from service Committees and comments arising from the consultation with Business Ratepayers which was held on 7 February 2019.

The Director, Corporate and Commercial was authorised by the Committee to make any necessary changes to the GLA precept (arising from the GLA Budget meeting on 25 February) and the Wimbledon and Putney Common Conservators levy in the Council Tax Calculation (in Annex C) prior to submission to Budget Council; once

the final decisions have been confirmed by these bodies. In the event no amendments to the Council Tax calculation in Annex C had arisen.

(1) In order for the proposals to be presented in detail at the Council meeting by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Alison Holt (in place of the Leader of the Council), in accordance with Standing Order 16 it was **resolved** that Standing Order 10(9) be suspended to allow the Portfolio Holder to speak for longer than 4 minutes.

(2) Councillor Alison Holt proposed and the Leader of the Council, Councillor Liz Green, seconded the recommendations to the Council set out in the report at Appendix A to the agenda.

(3) Councillor Sharron Falchikov-Sumner proposed an amendment, which was seconded by the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Kevin Davis, as follows:

“Council notes the council tax rise of 4.99% - the maximum allowed without a referendum - and that £3.5 million of the revenue generated through the increase is being placed in the Council's reserves.

Council calls for:

1. The administration to set a target for the Council to set a budget based on a 0% council tax rise 2020/21.
2. A sum of £240,000 (Targeted Children's Centre model page 46 Annex 6 - line 125) to be allocated to fund the four childrens' centres earmarked by the administration for closure in 2019/20 from the increase of £445,000 in the in-year contingency budget (page 36 Annex 5 line 10.) reducing that increase £205,000. In the MHCLG announcement the Council will receive an additional £105,000 in 2019/20 to cover the costs of Brexit
3. A freeze on councillor allowances in 2019/20 a part year impact of £7,000.
4. Reinstate the tree officer post earmarked by the administration to be deleted in 2018/19 at the additional cost of £52,000 funded from the freeze in members allowances of £7,000 and £45,000 further reducing the growth in the in-year budget contingency to £160,000 (page 36 Annex 5 line 10).”

(4) The Mayor adjourned the meeting from 9:40pm – 9:55pm to allow the Council to consider the amendment. On the Council reconvening, the Mayor exercised discretion to waive the limit to allow more than 10 speakers in the ensuing discussion.

(5) After debate, the amendment was put to the vote and was declared defeated –

Voting: For: 1 Member of the Council (Councillor Falchikov-Sumner)

Against: 34 Members of the Council (The Mayor, Councillor Thay Thayalan, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Olivia Boulton, and Councillors Zain Abbas, Sushila Abraham, Stephanie Archer, Kim Bailey, Tricia Bamford, Mark Beynon, Tim Cobbett, Emily Davey, Lorraine Dunstone, Mark Durrant, Simon Edwards, Sam Foulcher-Hughes, Hilary Gander, Dennis Goodship, Liz Green, Jaesung Ha, Lesley Heap, Alison Holt, Caroline Kerr, Andreas Kirsch, Katrina Lidbetter, Rebekah Moll, Munir Ravalia, Dave Ryder-Mills, Anita Schaper, Malcolm Self, John Sweeney, Jon Tolley, Olly Wehring, Diane White, Annette Wookey, Sharon Young, and Yogan Yoganathan)

Abstaining: 8 Members of the Council (Councillors Roy Arora, David Cunningham, Kevin Davis, Ed Fram, Ian George, Jason Hughes, Maria Netley and Nicola Sheppard)

(6) The recommendations set out in the report at Appendix A to the agenda were put to the meeting and, after further debate, it was:

Resolved that:

[References to 'the report' are to the report at Annex 1 to Appendix A in the Council agenda pack. Other references are to the Budget Report Pack.]*

1. the budget proposals and Council Tax for 2019/20 as set out in the Budget Report Pack report and its annexes be approved;
2. the relevant officers be authorised to take necessary action to deliver the agreed budget and service changes, including increasing relevant fees and charges in line with inflation;
3. in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, the comments of the Director of Corporate and Commercial be noted in regard to the robustness of estimates and the level of reserves and balances (as set out in the section "Comments of the Director of Corporate and Commercial (S151 Officer)" in paragraphs 25 to 31 of the Budget Report Pack);
4. the new Capital Strategy including the detailed capital programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23 (as set out in Annex 11 to the Budget Report pack) and the Treasury Strategy including the Annual Investment Strategy, prudential indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy (as set out in Annex 12 to the Budget Report pack) be approved;
5. the pay policy at Annex A to the report* be approved;
6. the Schools Budget for 2019-20 be approved in line with paragraph 17 and Enclosure 1 of Annex B to the report*;
7. the proposals outlined for the Central School Services Block including the transfer of £27k to the High Needs Block (ref. paras 26-28 of Annex B to the report*) be approved;
8. the proposals outlined for the Early Years Block, including the increase of the SEN Inclusion Fund to allow for high needs support for early years children (ref. paras. 29 - 35 of Annex B to the report*) be approved;
9. the proposals outlined for the High Needs Block (ref paras. 36-39 of Annex B to the report*) be approved; and

10. the proposals outlined for the Schools Block (ref. paras 20-25 of Annex B to the report*) and the Schools Funding Formula outlined in Enclosure 2 of Annex B to the report and the Schools Allocations in Enclosure 3 of Annex B to the report*, including a Minimum Funding Guarantee of -1.5% per pupil (ref. paras 22-23 of Annex B to the report*) be approved;
11. It be noted that on 15 January 2019, under delegated powers, the Director of Corporate and Commercial approved the Council Tax Base for 2019/20 for the whole Council area as 62,806.2 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act"); and
12. the following amounts (as set out in Annex C to the report*) be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Act 1992:

	£
a) The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act, taking into account the total of special items included in e) below.	451,894,638.00
b) The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act	354,470,587.00
c) The amount by which the aggregate at a) above exceeds the aggregate at b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. [Item R in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act].	97,424,051.00
d) The amount at c) above [Item R], all divided by Item T (1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year	1,551.19
e) The expenses of meeting the levy issued to it by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators shall be the aggregate of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.	46,859.91
f) The amount at d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at e) above by Item T (1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate	1,550.44
g) The amount given by adding the amount at f) above to the result of the amount at e) above divided by the council tax base for the part of the Council's area defined by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871, calculated by the Council, as the basic council tax for dwellings in those areas to which the special items relate.	1,580.34

h)

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	<u>Part of the Council's Area to which special items as defined in (e) above relate</u>	<u>All other parts of the Council's Area</u>
	£	£
A	1,053.56	1,033.63
B	1,229.15	1,205.90
C	1,404.75	1,378.17
D	1,580.34	1,550.44
E	1,931.53	1,894.98
F	2,282.71	2,239.52
G	2,633.90	2,584.07
H	3,160.68	3,100.88

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at f) and g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

i) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20, the Greater London Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	<u>GLA Precept</u>
	£
A	213.67
B	249.29
C	284.90
D	320.51
E	391.73
F	462.96
G	534.18
H	641.02

j) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (h) and (i) above, the Council in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act hereby sets the following amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019/20 for each of the categories of dwelling shown overleaf:

Valuation Bands	<u>Part of the Council's Area</u>	
	<u>Part of the Council's Area to which special items as defined in e) above relate</u>	<u>All other parts of the Council's Area</u>
	£	£
A	1,267.23	1,247.30
B	1,478.44	1,455.19
C	1,689.65	1,663.07
D	1,900.85	1,870.95
E	2,323.26	2,286.71
F	2,745.67	2,702.48
G	3,168.08	3,118.25
H	3,801.70	3,741.90

- k) That it be noted that, in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC

Voting: For: 34 Members of the Council (the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Olivia Boulton, and Councillors Zain Abbas, Sushila Abraham, Stephanie Archer, Kim Bailey, Tricia Bamford, Mark Beynon, Tim Cobbett, Emily Davey, Lorraine Dunstone, Mark Durrant, Simon Edwards, Sam Foulger-Hughes, Hilary Gander, Dennis Goodship, Liz Green, Jaesung Ha, Lesley Heap, Alison Holt, Caroline Kerr, Andreas Kirsch, Katrina Lidbetter, Rebekah Moll, Munir Ravalia, Dave Ryder-Mills, Anita Schaper, Malcolm Self, John Sweeney, Jon Tolley, Olly Wehring, Diane White, Annette Wookey, Sharon Young, and Yogan Yoganathan)

Against: 1 Member of the Council (Councillor Falchikov-Sumner)

Abstaining: 9 Members of the Council (The Mayor, Councillor Thay Thayalan, and Councillors Roy Arora, David Cunningham, Kevin Davis, Ed Fram, Ian George, Jason Hughes, Maria Netley and Nicola Sheppard)

78. Corporate Plan **Appendix B**
[Finance and Contracts Committee – 14 February 2019 - Appendix A]

The Council considered the Council's new Corporate Plan (for the period 2019-23) entitled 'Making Kingston Better, Together' which was attached as Annex 1 to a report at Appendix B in the agenda pack. The new Corporate Plan outlines the Council's vision, strategic outcomes and key deliverables over the period 2019 - 2023, and is supported by a set of performance indicators to help measure progress.

The Finance and Contracts Committee had considered the draft Plan at its meeting on 14 February and had recommended it to Council for approval and authorised the Director, Communities to make final amendments to the document prior to its submission to Council in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

The Plan identifies three Strategic Outcomes, namely:

- A sustainable approach to new homes, development and infrastructure which benefits our communities, in a well maintained borough;
- A safe borough which celebrates our diverse and vibrant communities, with local priorities shaped through participatory democracy
- Healthy, independent and resilient residents with effective support to those who need it most.

These are supported by a number of priorities and clear actions that will be delivered over the next four years (set out in the Technical Annex attached at Annex 2 - 'Delivering Outcomes - Priority Activities and Key Performance Indicators' which had been amended after the Committee meeting in consultation with the Leader). The Plan also sets out how the Council will change as an organisation in order to achieve the outcomes.

Resolved that the draft Corporate Plan set out at Annex 1 (and the Technical Annex attached as Annex 2) to the report at Appendix B be approved.

Voting –

For: 34 Members (the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Olivia Boulton, and Councillors Zain Abbas, Sushila Abraham, Stephanie Archer, Kim Bailey, Tricia Bamford, Mark Beynon, Tim Cobbett, Emily Davey, Lorraine Dunstone, Mark Durrant, Simon Edwards, Sam Foulder-Hughes, Hilary Gander, Dennis Goodship, Liz Green, Jaesung Ha, Lesley Heap, Alison Holt, Caroline Kerr, Andreas Kirsch, Katrina Lidbetter, Rebekah Moll, Munir Ravalia, Dave Ryder-Mills, Anita Schaper, Malcolm Self, John Sweeney, Jon Tolley, Olly Wehring, Diane White, Annette Wookey, Sharon Young, and Yogan Yoganathan)

Against: 1 Member (Councillor Sharron Falchikov-Sumner)

Abstaining: 9 Members (The Mayor, Councillor Thay Thayalan, and Councillors Roy Arora, David Cunningham, Kevin Davis, Ed Fram, Ian George, Jason Hughes, Maria Netley and Nicola Sheppard)

79. Regionalisation of Adoption

At its meeting on 22 November 2018, the Children's and Adults' Care and Education (CACE) Committee considered a report on the 'Regionalisation of Adoption' which set out details of a proposal for a new Adopt London South Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) to be created by combining the adoption services of the ten South London Boroughs of Croydon, Greenwich, Kingston, Wandsworth, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Richmond, Southwark, and Sutton. In March 2016, the Government had announced changes to the delivery of adoption services setting a very clear direction that all local authorities' adoption services must be delivered on a regionalised basis by 2020. In March 2018, the DfE commenced the legislation that allows them to direct a local authority into a RAA if there is no progress being made.

The CACE Committee unanimously agreed the recommendations below which were being referred to Council to approve as the Council's adoption services would be delegated to LB Southwark as the host authority for the Regional Adoption

Agency. The inter authority agreement and proposed governance arrangements had not yet been finalised but the Director of Children's Services would be authorised to approve those arrangements and will consult the South London Legal Partnership and the Monitoring Officer on the legal details.

Resolved that

1. the Council enters into regional adoption arrangements as part of Adopt London South; 2. staff and finances (likely 2.2 FTE and a budget of £126 000) are transferred or seconded dependent upon whether it is agreed by the Authorities involved that TUPE applies, to the London Borough of Southwark who will be hosting Adopt London South on behalf of ten South London boroughs; and
2. the Council's statutory Director of Children's Services is given delegated authority to make more detailed decisions around the implementation of this proposal including signing off the inter-authority agreement, staff transfer agreement and any other agreement required to implement the regional adoption agency between Kingston and Southwark, in consultation with the SLLP and the Council's Monitoring Officer.

Voting – unanimous

80. Financial Scheme of Delegation - minor clarification

In relation to the Constitution Review changes agreed at the Council meeting on 11 December 2018, with reference to paragraph 3.6 of the Financial Regulations (Financial Scheme of Delegation), it was **resolved** that, the level of budget decisions for which authority is delegated to Heads of Service will also be the level of budget decisions delegated to Assistant Directors – as shown in the clarifying addition in italics in the table below:

3.6. The table below sets out the financial decisions that Strategic Committees and Officers have delegated authority to take, within the agreed budget:

	Strategic Committee	Chief Executive/ S. 151 Officer	Strategic Directors	<i>Assistant Directors & Heads of Service</i>
Contract Awards	> £1m	£500k - £1m	£100k - £500k	< £100k
Acquisitions/ Disposals	> £1m	£500k - £1m	£100k - £500k	< £100k
New Capital Schemes	> £500k	£250k - £500k	£100k - £250k	< £100k
Variations to Capital Schemes	> £500k	£250k - £500k	£100k - £250k	< £100k
Capital Virements	> £500k	£250k - £500k	£100k - £250k	< £100k
Revenue Virements	> £500k	£250k - £500k	£100k - £250k	< £100k
Debt Write-offs	> £100k	£50k - £100k	£10k - £50k	< £10k
New Delivery Models	> £500k/ > 50 Staff / >1 Nhood area	£250k - £500k/ 25 - 50 staff	£100k - £250k /10-25 staff	< £100k / 10 staff

Voting – unanimous

81. Appointments of Members to Committees, Panels and other bodies

In considering the report and late material which proposed the two appointments below, the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Kevin Davis, asked that Councillor Falchikov-Sumner be appointed as an alternate on the Scrutiny Panel. The Leader, Councillor Liz Green, indicated that this would be supported if the Monitoring Officer advised that this would be permissible within the legal provisions which govern (the political proportionality of committee places on) the Council's committees.

Resolved that the following appointments be confirmed:

- Health and Wellbeing Board - Pauline Maddison (the new Interim Director of Children's Services – Kingston) appointed to replace Robert Henderson as a non-voting Board member
- Rose Theatre Trust Board - Councillor Simon Edwards be appointed as an RBK Trustee (together with Councillor Kevin Davis) on the Board in place of Councillor Malcolm Self who is resigning from that position. Appointments are for 3 years until June 2021.

Voting - unanimous

82. Community Call-in Waiver: Murray House - Short Term Lease

The Council noted that, under the urgency provisions in the Council's Community Call in Procedure, it had been agreed that the community call-in provisions should not apply to the following decision taken by the Finance and Contracts Committee at its meeting on 23 January 2019 relating to 'Murray House – Short Term Lease':

Resolved that a short-term lease at Market Value for the use of the Murray House site (as shown on the red line plan at Annex 1) by Kingston Community School between the period from 1 February 2019 to 31 August 2020 be granted to Chapel Street Community Schools Trust, on the understanding that the site be returned to the Council for other use at the expiry of the lease;

Call-In provisions can be waived in accordance with Paragraph 2(A) of the Community Call-In Procedure Rules on the grounds of urgency if any delay likely to be caused by the call in process to the implementation of that decision would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. Any decision considered urgent under these provisions must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reason for urgency.

The reason for urgency was: the essential requirement for the Education and Skills Funding Agency to maximise the time available for the procurement and refurbishment process in order for Kingston Community School to take occupation of Murray House in time for the start of the 2019/2020 school year.

83. Urgent Items authorised by the Mayor

There were no items of urgent business authorised by the Mayor.

Signed:.....Date:.....

The Mayor