



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

# MINUTES

## CABINET COMMITTEE MEETING – 22 OCTOBER 2012

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Committee** held at 3.00pm on Monday 22 October 2012 at Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

**Cabinet Members Present:** Councillors Melvyn Caplan, Tony Devenish, Philippa Roe and Rachael Robathan

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 The membership of the Committee was noted. Councillor Melvyn Caplan was elected as Chairman in the absence of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Roe at the start of the meeting.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRI-BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (see report of the Chief Executive)

- 3.1 The Chief Executive introduced the report. He advised that the changes come into effect from April 2013 when there is a statutory transfer of public health functions to local authorities. He advised that a ring fenced grant will be received to enable these functions to be discharged and the staff carrying out these functions will transfer to local authorities from PCTs.
- 3.2 A single, tri-borough public health service was being recommended with the City Council as the lead authority and the new employer.
- 3.3 The Cabinet Committee was advised that there were a number of contracts associated with the transfer. These were currently the subject of an audit being undertaken as part of the transfer process. The Committee asked that the new service include efficiency of 10% to 15% in staffing costs.
- 3.4 The Committee noted that the new service will, as part of a further phase once the transfer has taken place, lead to new opportunities in other areas, for example, Environmental Health and Housing.

- 3.5 The Committee noted that although the Department of Health will not inform authorities of their public health allocation until December, it had confirmed that funding allocations for 2013/14 will be no less than baseline estimates already announced with an uplift based on GDP deflator.
- 3.6 The Committee stressed that the ring fenced public health budget should have a neutral impact on the general fund in 2013/14 and in future years. The Committee agreed to hold a further meeting in January.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the statutory transfer of public health functions to local authorities from 1 April 2013 be noted and the establishment of a single tri-borough Public Health service with Westminster City Council as lead authority be agreed.
- (ii) That subject to the PCT engagement process the organisational structure for the tri-borough Public Health Service.
- (iii) That officers be authorised to continue discussions with NHS bodies on the details of transition arrangements, particularly with respect to finance, staffing and contracts and to report back to the Cabinet Committee in January after the formal notification of funding allocation from the Department of Health.
- (iv) That officers be authorised to begin discussions on the terms of a Section 113 Agreement between the three authorities (WCC, K&C and HAF) relating to the new tri-borough service.
- (v) That the transfer be undertaken on the basis that the cost of existing structures be reduced by 10% to 15% and the ring fenced budget make no overall impact on the General fund.
- (vi) That a further report be presented to a meeting of the Committee in January 2013 setting out details of progress to date and the revised structures referred to above.

**4. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 3.50pm.

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**CHAIRMAN:**

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**DATE**