



**INNOVATION & CHANGE DEPARTMENT**  
Polly Cziok – Executive Director

To all Members of the Council

**Democratic Services  
London Borough of Merton  
Merton Civic Centre  
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***Date: 20 November 2023***

Dear Councillor

### **Notification of Cabinet Decisions**

The decisions of the Cabinet meeting held on Thursday 16 November 2023 are attached.

The call-in deadline is Thursday 23 November 2023 at noon

The [call-in](#) form is attached for your use if needed and refers to the relevant sections of the constitution.

Yours sincerely

Democracy Services



# Decisions of the Cabinet held on Thursday 16 November 2023

## Call-in deadline – Thursday 23 November 2023 at Noon

4	Business Plan 2024-2028	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Cabinet considered and agreed the new capital proposals for 2024/25 to 2027/28 and the draft Capital Programme 2024-2028 (Appendix 1) and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in November 2023 for consideration and comment.</li> <li>2. That Cabinet agreed the approach to setting a balanced budget outlined in the report</li> <li>3. That Cabinet agreed the financial timetable for the Budget 2024/25 and MTFs 2024-28 (Appendix 5)</li> <li>4. That Cabinet considered and agreed the draft growth proposals for 2024/25 to 2027/28 (Appendix 2) put forward by officers and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in November 2023 for consideration and comment.</li> <li>5. That Cabinet considered and agreed the new savings proposals for 2024/25 to 2027/28 (Appendix 3) and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in November 2023 for consideration and comment.</li> <li>6. That Cabinet considered and agreed the Equalities Impact Assessments for each saving, where applicable, and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in November 2023 for consideration and comment.(Appendix 3)</li> </ol>
5	Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring Report	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. That Cabinet noted the financial reporting data for period 6, September 2023, relating to revenue budgetary control, showing a forecast net adverse variance at 30th September on service expenditure of £8.011m when corporate and funding items are included.</li> <li>B. That Cabinet noted the contents of Section 5 and approve the adjustments to the Capital Programme in the 4 Tables in the report <a href="#">here</a></li> <li>C. That Cabinet noted the adjustments to the Capital Programme in the Table <a href="#">here</a></li> <li>D. That Cabinet approved the draw down of £200k funding from the Voluntary Sector Support</li> <li>E. That Cabinet approved the replacement saving of £180k reference CH112 which becomes CH112R for Adult Social Care, Integrated Care and Public Health. Detailed in appendix 6a and 6b to the report</li> </ol>

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6	Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the updating revisions for the 2024/25 council tax support scheme detailed in the report be agreed, in order to maintain low council tax charges for those on lower incomes and other vulnerable residents.</li> <li>2. That Cabinet agreed the proposed revisions to the 2024/25 scheme</li> </ol>
7	Treasury Management Mid-Year Review Report 2023/24	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. That Cabinet noted the update on Treasury Management performance for the half year to 30 September 2023 and agrees to submit this update to Full Council</li> <li>B. That Cabinet agreed to recommend to Council that it delegates authority to the Executive Director of Finance and Digital (S151 officer) to make short term treasury investment decisions not otherwise currently authorised by the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy based on current market conditions/interest rates movements and funds availability to maximise the investment returns. The Annual Treasury Management Strategy for FY2024/25 will be presented to the Council in March 2024.</li> </ol>
8	Council housing delivery update and pipeline	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. That Cabinet noted the update and recommendations arising from the externally led asset review on how the Council’s ambition to deliver 400 new council homes can be met.</li> <li>B. That Cabinet agreed not to dispose of the next tranche of sites, as previously agreed, and instead allocates the sites for the affordable homes programme either through Council led delivery or development partnership.</li> <li>C. That Cabinet approved design and viability work to being on the following three sites: Worsfold House, Chaucer Centre and Gifford House.</li> <li>D. That Cabinet approve the commencement of soft market testing with the private sector on a partnership arrangement to deliver homes at the land at Battle Close.</li> <li>E. That Cabinet approved the allocation of the expected capital receipt from the sale of the land at St George’s Rd to support the design work for the three sites highlighted above</li> </ol>

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		<p>in C, and to support procurement for development through a partnership for the land at Battle Close, if soft market testing is positive.</p> <p>F. That the land at 111-127 The Broadway SW19 (also known as P4) be brought to the market and that the Executive Director of Housing and Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainable Development, be authorised to agree terms for a disposal.</p> <p>G. That the capital receipt from the sale of the land at 111-127 The Broadway SW19 is ringfenced to support the delivery of the Council's affordable homes programme.</p> <p>H. That Cabinet noted the finance, timescale and officer resource implications for the continuing programme, including the conclusions from a report into the viability and timing of setting up a new Council Housing Revenue Account</p> <p>I. That Cabinet noted the proposed Governance arrangements for ensuring oversight of the housing programme moving forward</p>
9	Expansion of Cost of Living Fund	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>A. That Cabinet noted progress in delivering the Merton Council Cost of Living Strategy and Action Plan 2023 – 2025.</p> <p>B. That Cabinet agreed to further expand the Merton Council Cost of Living Fund by allocating a further £1million, to be funded from the Strategic Priorities Fund reserve, in recognition of the ongoing challenges faced by local residents and businesses as a consequence of the cost of living emergency.</p> <p>C. That Cabinet agreed the five broad areas of focus identified in the report against which the additional funds will be allocated.</p> <p>D. That Cabinet delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Chief Executive and Corporate Management Team, to agree the financial allocations against each of the five broad areas of focus along with a detailed delivery plan</p>
10	St Helier & New Hospital Programme	<p>RESOLVED :</p> <p>A. That Cabinet noted the content of the report and associated appendices, documenting the independent analysis undertaken by Newton Europe on behalf of the Council</p>

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11	London Borough of Culture Bid	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>A. That Cabinet noted the progress in developing the bid for Merton to become the London Borough of Culture in 2027.</p> <p>B. That Cabinet reviewed the emerging themes and agree the direction of travel for the bid to be submitted to the Greater London Authority (GLA) by 30 November 2023 deadline</p>
12	Provision of Extra Care and Housing Related Support Services at Pantiles House and Trellis House	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>A. That Cabinet approved re-tendering Extra Care and Housing Related Support Services at Pantiles House and Trellis House for a period of 5 years at an estimated total cost of £5,748,780 without the option to extend.</p> <p>B. That the new service is commissioned under the light touch regime in a one stage procurement process. The tender opportunity will be advertised on Find a Tender, Contracts Finder, and the Council's e-tendering system (London Tenders Portal). The process will widen competition and ensure that the Council gets best value for money for this service.</p> <p>C. That Cabinet delegated authority to the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, Integrated Care and Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health, the award of contracts to the successful bidders at the conclusion of the tender process</p>
13	Cashless Parking Solution	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>A. That Cabinet approved the award of a contract for the provision of Cashless Parking Solution to RingGo Ltd (our incumbent supplier of the cashless parking service), by a 'Call-off without Competition' (Direct Award) for a 5 year period with a no fault break clause from year 3.</p>

## Merton Council - call-in request form

### 1. Decision to be called in: (required)

### 2. Which of the principles of decision making in Article 13 of the constitution has not been applied? (required)

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution - tick all that apply:

(a) proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);	
(b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;	
(c) respect for human rights and equalities;	
(d) a presumption in favour of openness;	
(e) clarity of aims and desired outcomes;	
(f) consideration and evaluation of alternatives;	
(g) irrelevant matters must be ignored.	

### 3. Desired outcome

Part 4E Section 16(f) of the constitution- select one:

(a) The Panel/Commission to refer the decision back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns.	
(b) To refer the matter to full Council where the Commission/Panel determines that the decision is contrary to the Policy and/or Budget Framework	
(c) The Panel/Commission to decide not to refer the matter back to the decision making person or body *	
* If you select (c) please explain the purpose of calling in the decision.	

**4. Evidence which demonstrates the alleged breach(es) indicated in 2 above (required)**

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution:

**5. Documents requested**

**6. Witnesses requested**

**7. Signed (not required if sent by email): .....**

**8. Notes – see part 4E section 16 of the constitution**

Call-ins must be supported by at least three members of the Council.

The call in form and supporting requests must be received by 12 Noon on the third working day following the publication of the decision.

The form and/or supporting requests must be sent:

- **EITHER** by email from a Councillor's email account (no signature required) to [democratic.services@merton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@merton.gov.uk)
- **OR** as a signed paper copy to the Head of Democracy & Electoral Services, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX.

For further information or advice contact the Head of Democracy & Electoral Services on 020 8545 3409