

## MEETING OF HARLOW COUNCIL

7.30 pm on Thursday, 2 November, 2017

In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre

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### AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors' declarations of interest (if any) in relation to any items on the agenda.

3. Minutes (Pages 4 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2017.

4. Communications from the Chair

5. Presentation of Civic Awards

Following recommendations to the Civic Award Panel, Richard Chiassaro and Ryan Lambert should have both been presented with Civic Awards at Annual Council but unfortunately were unable to attend the meeting.

6. Petitions from the Public

7. Questions from the Public

8. Questions from Councillors

9. Motions from Councillors

a) Princess Alexandra Hospital

Proposed by Councillor Jon Clempner (seconded by Councillor Tony Durcan):

The Council recognises the conscientious commitment of staff at Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) and notes with extreme concern the current recruitment and physical infrastructure needs at PAH.

Staff shortages, including a nurse vacancy rate of 25 per cent, have left wards struggling with the amount of patients. The A & E Department struggles to deliver the national four-hour standard.

Two other local hospitals have changed into Urgent Care Centres which only deal with minor injuries. This creates an additional demand for services on PAH which deals with major injuries, life threatening chest pains and head injuries as well as minor injuries.

Many parts of the physical infrastructure at PAH is beyond its designed life and is unable to accommodate patients in a manner appropriate for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century health facility. Indeed, water ingress and sewage egress in some vital areas presents real risks to the integrity of the hospital.

The Council believes that urgent investment is required to address the challenges faced by the hospital now and that a commitment needs to be given for the provision of a new hospital. A new hospital, as part of a health and wellbeing campus, that would provide services adequate to ensure that the residents of Harlow and its surrounding areas will benefit from emergency and GP services, physiotherapy units, social care, a new ambulance hub and a training centre for nursing and healthcare.

The Council resolves to urge the Government to:

- a) Ensure that the Princess Alexandra Hospital is treated a priority case for investment to address its current physical infrastructure challenges.
- b) Support the hospital Trust in working with other public sector and private sector bodies to develop a business case for the investment necessary to achieve a new hospital as part of a health and wellbeing campus.
- c) To instruct NHS England and NHS Improvement to work positively with the health economy and with the Councils of West Essex and East Hertfordshire to deliver a plan to secure financially sustainable, appropriate and sufficient access to health services for the communities served by PAH and the West Essex CCG.

#### 10. References from Cabinet and Committees

- a) Referral from Cabinet - Annual Treasury Management Report 2016/17 (Pages 9 - 29)

Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:

- A The Annual Treasury Management Report for 2016/17, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.
- B The revised Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy, attached as Appendix B to the report, be adopted.

- b) Referral from Cabinet - Discretionary Rate Relief Policy  
(Pages 30 - 82)

Cabinet recommended to Full Council that the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy, attached as Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

11. Reports from Officers

- a) Interim Governance Arrangements (Pages 83 - 85)
- b) Nomination to Vacant Positions on Committees

To confirm the nomination of Councillor Tony Edwards to the Scrutiny Committee, Call-in Sub-Committee, Cabinet Overview Working Group and as a substitute on the Development Management Committee.

12. Minutes of Cabinet and Committee Meetings

To note the following Cabinet and Committee minutes:

- a) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 6 September 2017 of Audit & Standards Committee (Pages 86 - 89)
- b) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 12 September 2017 of Licensing Committee (Pages 90 - 93)
- c) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 14 September 2017 of Cabinet (Pages 94 - 101)
- d) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 3 October 2017 of Development Management Committee (Pages 102 - 103)
- e) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 12 October 2017 of Cabinet (Pages 104 - 107)

13. Matters of Urgent Business