

CITY OF WESTMINSTER
URGENCY COMMITTEE OF THE CABINET
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At a meeting of an Urgency Committee of the Cabinet held on Monday 24 May 2004 at 6.00 pm at Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, SW1.

Present: Councillors: Simon Milton (Chairman), Brian Connell and Kit Malthouse

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

1.1 There were no declarations of interest.

2. WESTMINSTER AND PADDINGTON ACADEMIES: NORTH WHARF ROAD SCHOOL SITE AND FUNDING ISSUES

- 2.1 The Director of Environment and Leisure introduced the report, updating Members on (a) the potential disposal of the North Wharf Road School site; (b) completion of the DfES funding agreements for the two academies; (c) progress on site assembly; (d) planning issues; (e) housing improvements at Westbourne Green; and (f) the financial position.
- 2.2 Members were advised of the outcome of a meeting between the City Council and Chelsfield plc, sponsors of the Westminster Academy. It was noted that a satisfactory conclusion was expected in terms of both community sports provision and compensation for any delays due to site clearance issues. With respect to the clearance of the Harrow Road site, the Director of Environment and Leisure indicated that the surrender of the Stowe Club lease was expected within the next couple of days and proposed a method of attempting to resolve the negotiations with the GPs at Harrow Road Health Centre in relation to the surrender and re-grant of their lease, in order to ensure that matters were progressed speedily.
- 2.3 In response to a question by the Leader, the Director of Education advised that community consultation with respect to the Paddington Academy was progressing, although a number of local residents remained unhappy with certain aspects of the scheme. It was further noted that whilst the academy would have a performance space, a replacement theatre would not be located on site.

- 2.4 **RESOLVED:** (1) that the progress made since the Cabinet meeting on 19th April be noted; and
- (2) that the decisions made at the Cabinet meeting on 19th April (listed at Appendix 2 b) of the report), including the continuation of works to complete the new Harrow Road Health Centre and Stowe Club on the site of the existing Stowe Club, be confirmed and the Director of Environment and Leisure be authorised to attempt to resolve the negotiations with the GPs as indicated at paragraph 2.2 above.

Reason for Decisions:

The recommendations set out in the report to Cabinet on 19th April 2004 remain the most viable way of achieving the City Council's overall aim of delivering this key element of the Education Guarantee towards the secondary sector and of bringing forward the regeneration of the Westbourne Green area.

3. CLOSE OF MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting ended at 6.21 pm

.....
Chairman

.....
Date