

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2020 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr. Fleming (Chairman)

Cllr. Dickins (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs. McArthur, Dyball, Maskell and Thornton

Cllrs. Carroll, Clayton, Purves and Dr. Canet were also present.

146. Minutes

Resolved: That the Minutes of Cabinet held on 5 November 2020 and 16 November 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

147. Declarations of interest

There were no additional declarations of interest.

148. Questions from Members

A Member asked a question about Active Travel and whether bids for funding had been submitted by the Council. The Chairman replied that whilst we hadn't had a scheme in Tranche 1 we had promoted the Kent County Council Sevenoaks District Cycle Plan to the Highway Authority for schemes to be put forward for funding from Tranche 2.

A Members asked a question about support for Sencio. The Chairman replied that he was disappointed the leisure centres remained closed and that further support for leisure provision in the District would soon be considered by Cabinet.

149. Matters referred from Council, Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee, CIL Spending Board or Cabinet Advisory Committees

There were none.

150. Treasury Management mid year update

The Finance & Investment Portfolio Holder presented the report which gave details of treasury activity in the first half of the current financial year, recent developments in the financial markets and fulfilled the reporting requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

The Principal Accountant explained that due to the 2021/22 budget setting process being shortened, the Finance and Investment Advisory Committee had not received

the report but that it had been circulated to Members of that Advisory Committee for comments.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That the Treasury Management Mid-Year Update for 2020/21 be approved.

151. Homelessness out of hours service review

The Housing & Health Portfolio Holder presented the report which provided a review of the pilot undertaken with Centra to provide the Council's homelessness out of hours service and also considered future delivery options for the service.

The Head of Housing and Health explained that the Council was required to deliver a dedicated service to customers facing homelessness outside standard office hours. The report provided Members with options for how the homelessness out-of-hours service was delivered. The Portfolio Holder advised that the Advisory Committee had considered the same report and had recommended Option B as set out at paragraph 29 of the report.

Cabinet thanked the Head of Housing and Health for her work over the years, as she would shortly be leaving the Council.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That Option B, to enter into a two year contract with Centra to continue delivering the Council's homelessness out-of-hours service, with regular monitoring of the service in place. One Council housing officer providing a back-up contact for Centra and CCTV, to support them with complex questions at a total cost to the Council of £3,689 per annum, be agreed for the future delivery for the Council's homelessness out-of-hour service.

152. New proposed waste collection, transportation & disposal regulations model to reduce incidents of fly tipping

The Cleaner & Greener Portfolio Holder presented the report on a proposed new regulatory model, the 'Sevenoaks Model', which was a new innovative concept which required lobbying for new legislative changes to reduce incidents of fly-tipping, to make it easier for residents to see who was licensed to carry waste and for law enforcement to detect unlicensed carriers.

The Head of Direct Services set out that the report sought support for the idea and working model to be promoted to central Government via officers engaging with

the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the district's Members of Parliament.

He advised that the Cleaner & Greener Advisory Committee had considered the same report.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the principles set out as the 'Sevenoaks Model' in paragraphs 12 to 21 of the report be supported;
- b) the Head of Direct Services be authorised to lobby Government for legislative changes in line with the principles proposed in the 'Sevenoaks Model'.

153. Kent Nature Partnership Biodiversity Strategy

The Cleaner & Greener Portfolio Holder presented the Kent Biodiversity Strategy which set out the contribution the County of Kent, and the Kent Nature Partnership, could make to the Government's ambitions and aspirations set out in its 25 year Environment Plan, "A Green Future".

The Principal Planning Officer (Policy) spoke to the report and advised that the Cleaner & Greener the Advisory Committee had considered it.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That the Kent Nature Partnership Biodiversity Strategy, be endorsed.

154. Net Zero 2030 and Kent Energy and Low Emission Strategy

The Chairman presented the report which recommended endorsement of the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy (ELES), which would help the Council fulfil one of its stage 1 actions of its commitment to Net Zero 2030.

The Principal Planning Officer (Policy) advised that the Cleaner & Greener Advisory Committee had considered it.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

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Resolved: That the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy, be endorsed.

IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

This notice was published on 11 December 2020. The decisions contained in Minutes take effect immediately. The decision contained in Minutes 153 and 154 take effect on 21 December 2020.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 7.50 PM

CHAIRMAN