

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL ON 30 JUNE 2016 FROM CABINET ON 24 MAY 2016

CAB2: URGENT BUSINESS - LATE ITEM - PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES FOR DEPUTY CABINET MEMBERS

The Chairman had agreed that the following item be considered under Section 100(b)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the allowances for all members may be resolved at the commencement of the Municipal year.

Councillor Long presented the report which proposed that the newly appointed Deputy Cabinet Members be paid an allowance of £1,100 per annum. He explained that the reduction in the number of Cabinet Members and the removal of the position of Assistant to the Leader had ensured the proposal was within budget. Councillor Long gave information on the role and level of responsibilities of the Deputy Cabinet Members which is set out below.

It was agreed that Deputy Cabinet Members would be trained to ensure it was clear what their role was in meetings when representing a Cabinet Member, and that they were not in possession of any delegated authority. It was agreed that the reference to Deputy Cabinet Members and their roles be inserted in the appropriate section of the Constitution.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That the purpose and role of the Deputy Cabinet Members be noted as follows and included within the relevant sections of the Constitution:

Purpose

To assist and work with the designated Cabinet Member with their responsibility for allocated portfolios.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. To assist the designated Cabinet Member in shaping and developing the strategic priorities of the Council as it relates to the allocated portfolio.
2. To assist the designated Cabinet Member in monitoring performance in specified areas relating to the allocated portfolio.
3. Where appropriate and where permissible under the Council's Constitution to represent the designated Cabinet Member at meetings or visits.
4. The role of Deputy Cabinet Member does not allow any use of Cabinet Members delegated powers or responsibilities.

2) That an allowance of £1,100 be paid to Deputy Cabinet Members.

CAB11: CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Councillor Mrs K Mellish presented a report which invited Members to consider and endorse updates to the corporate Child Protection Policy. The policy had been in place since 2007 and had been revised to reflect current practice and developments which had evolved during the intervening period.

The policy was designed to ensure the Council met its responsibilities and safeguarded children and young people from potential harm and abuse, as well as protecting itself, its staff and elected members.

Councillor Mrs Nockolds commented that she was pleased that Council property leases etc were being reviewed to take into account the safeguarding element.

Under Standing Order 34 Councillor Mrs Wright asked if Childhood Obesity was considered under the policy, to which it was undertaken to look into whether it was.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That the revised Child Protection Policy be approved.

2) That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director, Central and Community Services, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to agree amends/updates to the Policy that may be required to ensure it remains compliant with legislation.

3) That Officers take steps to ensure that the Council's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children is appropriately reflected in contracts, leases and licences

CAB13: CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

Cabinet considered a report which recommended updates to the following elements of the Constitution to take into account changes in the Council Scrutiny structure, and the Cabinet responsibilities, also taking the opportunity to review and update the documents:

Part 1 – Summary and Explanation

Part 2 – Articles

Part 3 – Terms of Reference of Council Bodies including the Scheme of Delegation

Part 4 – Standing Orders

Under Standing Order 34 Councillor Moriarty:

- suggested that hard copies of the constitution be given to new members on appointment.
- asked if Deputy Cabinet Members would be appointed to serve on Panels as he considered it would be looked upon in the same way as Cabinet Members.
- Asked how information could be ascertained about meetings attended by Deputy Cabinet Members.

In response it was confirmed that hard copies of the Constitution would be made available should Members wish, Deputy Cabinet Members had not and would not be appointed to serve on Panels, but it was agreed to add this wording to the Constitutional elements as required. With regard to information on meetings attended, it was explained that the Deputy would report back to the Cabinet Member who would be able to answer questions on it.

RECOMMENDED: 1) That Council approve parts 1-4 of the amended Constitution

Part 1 – Summary and Explanation

Part 2 – Articles (with the addition in 16.04 (a) to say a hard copy of the Constitution will be available to Councillors should they wish)

Part 3 – Terms of Reference of Council Bodies including the Scheme of Delegation (subject to the inclusion in F 1 and H.1 of Deputy Cabinet

Members not being appointed to sit on Audit Committee and Policy Review and Development Panels)

Part 4 – Standing Orders

2) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader be given delegated Authority to make minor amendments to the elements to resolve any anomalies which may occur.

3) That all elements of the Constitution be automatically updated to take into account any legislative requirements.