

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held as This will be a Virtual meeting  
on Tuesday, 16th June, 2020 at 7.30 pm

### 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting that was being conducted with Members and Officers at various locations, communicating via audio/video and online and advised that there was the opportunity for the public and press to listen and view proceedings.

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager gave advice regarding the following:

- Attendance;
- Live Streaming;
- Noise interference;
- Rules of Debate;
- Voting.

The Chair, Councillor David Levett started the meeting proper.

### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

### 3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

### 4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the 2020/21 Civic Year.
2. The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council policy this meeting was being audio recorded as well as filmed. The audio recordings would be available to view on Mod.gov and the film recording via the NHDC YouTube channel.
3. Members were reminded to make declarations of interest before an item, the detailed reminder about this and speaking rights was set out under Chair's Announcements on the agenda.
4. The Chair advised that he would take Item 16 the Part 2 Item after Item 15 – Garden Waste Collection Service. The Committee would then come back into Part one and take Item 15 the related Part 1 Item.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 6 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS

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The Chair advised that he had, as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, agreed to one urgent item to be considered this evening and by Cabinet on 23 June 2020. This being the Part 1 and Part 2 Items regarding the Commercial Waste Arrangements.

## **7 CALLED-IN ITEMS**

Since the last meeting, no decisions had been called-in by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **8 RESOLUTIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled Resolutions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review and comment on actions and feedback received regarding resolutions previously made.

## **9 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Task and Finish Group on the Waste Contract continue to be undertaken, but consideration be given to timing in light of Covid 19 and the need to engage with the community.
- (2) That the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager be requested to prepare a proposed Protocol on Task and Finish Reviews, taking into account research and the Peer Challenge report and that it be presented to the Committee as soon as is practicable.
- (3) That the scope of the proposed Task and Finish Group on communication in relation to the Waste Contract be widened to encompass Communication and Engagement generally.
- (4) That the following outside organisations be requested to attend a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Task and Finish Group:
  - Local Enterprise Partnership
  - Settle
- (5) That the Deputy Chief Executive be requested to make a presentation or present a report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the Council's plan for recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic including views on the new normal regarding delivery of services.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To allow the Committee to set a work programme which provides focussed Member oversight, encourages open debate and seeks to achieve service improvement through effective policy development and meaningful policy and service change.

## **10 DISTRICT WIDE SURVEY 2019 - KEY FINDINGS**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled District Wide Survey 2019 – Key Findings be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:**

- (1) That Cabinet comment on and note the key findings and observations from the District Wide Survey.

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- (2) That Cabinet note that the results will be considered by Senior Management Team in conjunction with Executive Members, to inform the service planning process and future consultation activity.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To ensure that Cabinet is aware of the results and any trends from previous surveys and how the results will be used to inform future service delivery.

## **11 CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE - ACTION PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan be noted,

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:**

- (1) That the draft Action Plan at Appendix A be approved.
- (2) That agreeing the timescales for the actions within the Action Plan be delegated to the Leader, Deputy Leader and Managing Director.
- (3) That Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the Special Reserve be used to fund a small transformation team for a period of 18 months from October 2020, with an estimated total cost of £150k (£50k in 2020/21 and £100k in 2021/22).
- (4) That agreeing the specification for, and intended outcomes of, the transformation programme be delegated to the Leader, Deputy Leader, Executive Member for Finance and IT, Managing Director and Service Director Resources.
- (5) That Cabinet consider making Planning training compulsory for all Members

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To ensure that the Council responds to the matters identified within the CPC report, ensuring that the benefits of the CPC process are realised.

## **12 2019/20 QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**RESOLVED:** That the 4th Quarter Update on Performance against Performance Indicators be noted.

**REASONS FOR DECISIONS:** To update the Committee on the performance indicators as well as other indicators that officers have updated and activated on Pentana Risk.

## **13 4TH QUARTER MONITORING REPORT ON KEY PROJECTS FOR 2019-20**

**RESOLVED:** That delivery against the key projects for 19/20 be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO THE CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT:** That the Cabinet Panel on the Environment be requested to consider air quality in the District, in particular the effect that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on areas of poor air quality.

**REASON FOR DECISIONS:** To enable achievements against the key projects for 2019/20 to be considered

## **14 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT ('RIPA') UPDATE AND ANNUAL REVIEW**

**RESOLVED:** That the content of the report entitled Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act ('RIPA') Update and Annual Review and the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office Inspection report (Appendix A) be noted.

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**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** That the RIPA Policy and Social Media in Investigations Policy as amended (in Appendices B-C) be approved.

**REASON FOR DECISIONS:** To comply with the Inspector's recommendations and best practice.

*NB: The Committee adjourned at 9.15pm for a comfort break and the meeting reconvened at 9.29pm.*

*The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager undertook a roll call.*

**15 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

No questions had been submitted.

**16 GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE IMPACTS OF COVID 19**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitles Garden Waste Collection Service Impacts of Covid-19 be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** That Council agrees an extension of the current 12 months payment period for green waste collection, for a further period of 2 months [The loss of income based on current (48%) uptake is approximately £186,000].

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To acknowledge service disruption / suspension in our garden waste collection service and demonstrate to residents that the Council accepts the inconvenience caused during the seasonal peak of garden waste production.

**17 COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE IMPACTS OF COVID 19**

*This item was considered after the Part 2 item of the same name (Minute 20 refers)*

*The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager undertook a roll call.*

*NB: Councillor Bryant did not return to the meeting.*

*The Chair paused the meeting to allow time for Councillor Bryant to reconnect either by video or by phone. Councillor Bryant was unable to reconnect to the meeting and the Chair made the decision to continue with business.*

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled Commercial Waste Collection Service Impacts of Covid-19 be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** That Cabinet consider two options being:

- (a) The recommendation contained in the Part 2 report
- (b) The option detailed in Paragraph 4.3 of the Part 2 report

**REASON FOR DECISIONS:** To consider the impact of Covid 19 on the commercial waste collection service and consider what charges should be made for the 1st Quarter.

**18 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

**19 COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE IMPACTS OF COVID 19**

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*This item was considered prior to the Part 1 Item of the same name (Minute 17 refers).*

*There is no audio recording of this item as it formed part of a private meeting in accordance with Minutes 18 above.*

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled Commercial Waste Collection Service Impacts of Covid-19 be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** That Cabinet consider two options being:

- (a) The recommendation contained in the report
- (b) The option detailed in Paragraph 4.3 of the report

**REASON FOR DECISIONS:** To consider the impact of Covid 19 on the commercial waste collection service and consider what charges should be made for the 1st Quarter