

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Joint Staff Consultative Committee held as This will be a Virtual Meeting
on Wednesday, 16th December, 2020 at 10.00 am

1 WELCOME AND REMOTE/PARTLY REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual meeting of the Joint Staff Consultative Committee 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 Officer undertook a roll call and gave advice regarding the following:

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

The Vice Chair, Councillor Kate Aspinwall, started the meeting proper.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kay Tart.

Having given due notice Councillor Martin Stears-Handscomb advised he would be substituting for Councillor Kay Tart.

Apologies for absence were also received from Debbie Ealand – Unison, and SCF Representatives Andrew Betts, Christina Corr, Lea Ellis and Emma Jellis.

3 MINUTES - 18 DECEMBER 2019 TO 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

IT WAS AGREED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee held on 18 December 2019, 11 March 2020 and 23 September 2020 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and that the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer be authorised to apply the Chair's digital signature.

5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) The Chair drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.
- (4) The Chair reminded attendees of the extended Christmas closure period for some Council employees which would begin 24 December.

6 STAFF CONSULTATION FORUM

IT WAS AGREED: That the minutes of the Staff Consultation Forums held in October 2020 and November 2020 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Joint Staff Consultative Committee to consider any issues addressed by the Staff Consultation Forum.

7 HUMAN RESOURCES - INFORMATION NOTE

IT WAS AGREED: That the Information Note entitled People Strategy Update be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to consider the Information Note entitled People Strategy Update.

8 APPRENTICESHIPS UPDATE

IT WAS AGREED: That the Apprenticeships Update provided be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to consider the content of the Apprenticeships Update.

9 DISCUSSION PAPER: CARERS AT WORK

IT WAS AGREED: That the Strategic Discussion Paper on wellbeing for Carers be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to consider the discussion paper on wellbeing for Carers.

10 FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPICS

Members considered which subjects should be discussed at future meetings and:

IT WAS AGREED:

- (1) That the discussion topics for the next meeting would be as follows:
 - (i) Uptake of salary sacrifice schemes
- (2) That a separate verbal update on COVID-19 Recovery plans be provided to the Committee; and
- (3) That the discussion topics of the meeting after next would include:
 - (i) The challenges and rewards of home working;
 - (ii) The return to office working.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to choose a discussion topic of interest.