

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Joint Staff Consultative Committee held as a Virtual Meeting
on Wednesday, 10th March, 2021 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 Councillors Kay Tart and Terry Hone.

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

Having given due notice Councillor Tony Hunter advised he would be substituting for Councillor Terry Hone.

Apologies for absence were also received from Lea Ellis, Allison Fox, Andrew Betts, Dee Levett and Debbie Ealand.

3 MINUTES - 16 DECEMBER 2020

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer advised of two amendments to be made to the minutes:

- Substituting 'Southern Rural Committee,' for 'Joint Staff Consultative Committee,' at Minute 9 – Welcome and Remote/Partly Remote Meetings Protocol
- Changing Jo Keshishian's job title to 'Interim HR Services Manager,' throughout

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the amendments above be noted;
- (2) That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 16 December 2020 be approved as a true record of the proceedings;
- (3) That the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer be authorised to apply the Chair's digital signature to the approved minutes.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting;
- (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.

5 STAFF CONSULTATION FORUM

IT WAS AGREED: That the minutes of the Staff Consultation Forums held in December 2020 and January 2021 and February 2021 be noted.

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

6 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.

7 EQUALITIES UPDATE

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

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

8 STRATEGIC DISCUSSION PAPER: SALARY SACRIFICE SCHEMES

IT WAS AGREED: That the Strategic Discussion Paper on the salary sacrifice schemes be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to consider the discussion paper on salary sacrifice schemes.

9 FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPICS

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

IT WAS AGREED:

- (1) That the discussion topic for the next meeting be as follows:
 - (i) The Employee Assistance Programme
- (2) That the discussion topic of the challenges and rewards of home working and the return to office work be considered at the meeting after next;
- (3) That an Employment Law Update should be presented in the next civic year;
- (4) That regular updates on the work of the Inclusion Group be provided to the Committee.

Wednesday, 10th March, 2021

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