

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Council held in the This was a virtual meeting
on Thursday, 16th April, 2020 at 4.00 pm

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual Extraordinary Council 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 advise regarding the following:

- Attendance;
- Virtual Meeting;
- Noise Interference;
- Rules of Debate;
- Voting.

The Chair of the Council, Councillor Jean Green started the meeting proper.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Audio Recording

In accordance with Council policy this meeting was being audio recorded as well as filmed. The audio and film recordings would be available to view on Mod.gov and the film recording via the NHDC Youtube channel.

(2) Climate Emergency

Members were reminded that this Council had declared a Climate Emergency. This was a serious decision and meant that, as this was an emergency, all of us, officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District.

(3) Declarations of Interest

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) Attendance

The Chair advised that there was no public participation. However, members of the public and press could view and hear the meeting remotely regarding the Part 1 session. Members of the public and press would be removed from the meeting by passing the usual resolution under the access to information procedure rules.

(5) Rules of Debate

The Chair reminded Members that they may only speak once on a motion and once on any amendments.

(6) Order of Business

The Chair advised that she would be taking the Part 2 Item 6 - Referral from the Employment Committee after the introduction at Item 3. The meeting would then return to Part 1 Item 3 to confirm the decision. Following which Agenda Item 4 Senior Management Report would be considered.

4 REFERRAL FROM EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: 17 MARCH 2020 - SENIOR MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

RESOLVED: That Anthony Roche be appointed to the new Managing Director post, being effective on 18 July 2020.

REASON FOR DECISION: Following the decision by Council on 27th February 2020 it is necessary to consider an appointment to the post of Managing Director.

5 SENOR MANAGEMENT REPORT

RESOLVED:

1. That Council agrees to the principle of one of the Service Directors being designated as the deputy to the Managing Director, and that individual will receive additional salary to compensate for the additional responsibility. This will be subject to consultation.
2. That Council confirms that the recruitment of a Service Director to be designated as the Deputy for the Managing Director would be made by the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the future Head of Paid Service.
3. That Council notes the forecast savings of around £124k and that this will be reflected in the budget setting process for 2021/22 onwards.
4. That Council instructs the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary amendments to the Constitution in respect of the roles of Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director to be reported to Council in July.
5. That Council instructs the Chief Finance Officer to make the necessary amendments to the Financial Regulations in respect of the roles of Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director to be reported to Council in July.
6. That Council agrees that the salary of the Managing Director is reviewed during 2022/23 to ensure that it competitive against other similar roles, subject to affordability in relation to the Council's budget position.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS: To provide resilience when the Managing Director is absent. To ensure that the Constitution and Financial Regulations reflect the new senior management structure.

6 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the report will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

7 REFERRAL FROM EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That Anthony Roche be appointed to the new Managing Director post, being effective on 18 July 2020.

REASON FOR DECISION: Following the decision by Council on 27th February 2020 it is necessary to consider an appointment to the post of Managing Director.

The meeting returned to Part 1 to confirm the decision in public.

8 MEETING CLOSURE AND THANKS

The Chairman expressed appreciation to officers for the work undertaken to get to enable this virtual meeting to take place. She acknowledged that the amount of work should not be underestimated, particularly in the current circumstances.