

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City on Tuesday, 14th December, 2021 at 7.30 pm

### 1 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting that was being held in the Council Chamber and advised that the meeting was being streamed live on the Council's YouTube channel and some Officers were joining online.

The Chair invited the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer to explain how proceedings would work.

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer undertook a roll call of those officers joining the meeting online to ensure that they could hear and be heard and gave advice regarding the following:

- Rules of Debate;
- Voting; and
- Covid Risk Assessment Measures.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor David Levett started the meeting proper.

### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Daniel Allen, Kate Aspinwall, Jim McNally, Ian Moody and Terry Tyler.

Having given due notice, Councillor Morgan Derbyshire substituted for Councillor Ian Moody, Councillor Terry Hone substituted for Councillor Jim McNally and Councillor Ruth Brown substituted for Councillor Terry Tyler.

### 3 MINUTES - 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14 September 2021 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

### 4 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

### 5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that following the death of Cllr Paul Clark a minutes silence would be held.
- (2) The Chair advised Members that the meeting would be audio and video recorded in line with Council policy.
- (3) The Chair reminded Members that interests should be declared prior to an item and the detailed explanation of this was included on the agenda.

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- (4) The Chair advised that there was a Part 2 Item on the agenda for this meeting and notified members of the public that the room would be emptied and the live stream would be stopped at this point.
- (5) The Chair notified Members of a change of order and Items 16 and 17, 'Exclusion of Press and Public' and 'Commercial Update Part 2', would come before Item 15, 'Commercial Update Part 1'.

## **6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

## **7 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS**

There were no Urgent or General Exception items.

## **8 CALLED-IN ITEMS**

There were no Called-In Items.

## **9 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.

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

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Committee prioritises proposed topics for inclusion in the work programme attached as Appendix A and, where appropriate, determines the high level form and timing of scrutiny input.
- (2) That the Committee, having considered the Forward Plan attached as Appendix B, suggests a list of items to be considered at its meeting on 18 January 2022 and beyond and will notify the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager of these, specifically relating to Crime and Disorder.
- (3) That the Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan Extract, as attached as Appendix C, be considered.

**REASONS FOR DECISIONS:** 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.

## **11 INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

**RESOLVED:** That the proposals set out in the report were approved, which relate to the creation and monitoring of an Integrated Council Delivery Plan.

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:** To approve the changes to the Constitution as detailed in Section 9.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To improve the current processes that are in place which do not seem to be well integrated with each other or the Council Plan.

**12 Q2 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2021-22**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled 'Q2 Performance Indicators 2021-22' be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** To consider further messaging and communications, not exclusive to social media, to clarify the process for residents regarding food waste and the missed collection protocol.

**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 PROGRESS AGAINST PROJECTS TO SUPPORT THE COUNCIL PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled '2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Monitoring Report on Key Projects for 2021-22' be noted.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To enable achievements against the key projects for 2021-22 to be considered.

**14 COMMENTS, COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS HALF YEAR REPORT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Information Note entitled 'Half Year Update on Comments, Compliments and Complaints (3C's)' be noted.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To update the Committee on the first six months performance of 2021/22 regarding the Comments, Compliments and Complaints (3C's) received for the Council and the contractors that provide services on the Council's behalf.

**15 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 following report will involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of Said Act (as amended).

**16 COMMERCIAL UPDATE - PART 2**

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled 'An update of the Commercial Directorate's progress and future work programme' be noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** To review the Harkness Court project in light of Overview and Scrutiny comments and concerns in relation to the climate emergency (greener solutions instead of the proposed gas installation), whether there are more commercially viable options to the leasing of the flats, as is currently proposed, to generate a better financial return, and if the approach taken remains the most suitable or if other options should be explored. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee request that the Cabinet report back to the Committee.

**REASONS FOR DECISION:** The report is following the request of the Committee for an update on the progress of the Commercial Directorate work programme and is for information only.

**17 COMMERCIAL UPDATE**

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## **18 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were no questions submitted by Members.