

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth on Tuesday, 12th July, 2022 at 7.30 pm

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nigel Mason, Carol Stanier and Ian Moody.

Having given due notice Councillor Sean Nolan substituted for Councillor Nigel Mason.

### 2 MINUTES - 13 JUNE 2022

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13 June 2022 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

### 3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

### 4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (2) 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.
- (3) The Chair advised that Item 11, regarding the Lord Lister Hotel/Keystage Housing Grant call to account, had been withdrawn following advice from the Monitoring Officer and would be brought back to the Committee as soon as practicable following the conclusion of the planning process.
- (4) The Chair highlighted a change to the agenda order and advised that Agenda Item 10, Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme, would be taken as the final item.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 6 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS

The Chair advised that he had approved one Urgent Item.

### 7 CALLED-IN ITEMS

There were no Called In Items.

### 8 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no questions submitted by Members.

### 9 RESOLUTIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**RESOLVED:** That the report entitled 'Resolutions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee' was 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 ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2021/22**

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee:

- (1) Received and commented on the annual report of progress made against the Council's fulfilment of the statutory duty to maintain an effective safeguarding function with regard to children.
- (2) Received and commented on the annual report of progress made against the Council's fulfilment of the statutory duty to maintain an effective safeguarding function with regard to adults with care and support needs.
- (3) Received and commented on the annual report of progress made against the Council's fulfilment of statutory duties in relation to specific areas such as radicalisation and counter terrorism, modern slavery and human trafficking and domestic abuse.
- (4) Agreed that sufficient and robust processes are in place at the Council for application and review of safeguarding processes, and that an annual review and presentation to this committee should continue.

**REASON FOR DECISIONS:** This is the best course of action that can be accommodated within the approved budget and officer resources, that will fulfil our statutory and lawful obligations but also ensure that a regular, corporate review exists.

**11 LORD LISTER HOTEL/KEYSTAGE HOUSING GRANTS**

This item was withdrawn from this agenda.

**12 UPDATE OF THE COMMERCIAL DIRECTORATE WORK PROGRAMME**

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the report.

**REASON 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.

**13 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 likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

**14 UPDATE OF THE COMMERCIAL DIRECTORATE WORK PROGRAMME**

Details of decisions taken on this item are restricted due to the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of Section 200A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**15 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Committee prioritised proposed topics for inclusion in the work programme attached as Appendix A and, where appropriate, determined the high level form and timing of scrutiny input.
- (2) That the Committee, having considered the most recent iteration of the Forward Plan suggested a list of items to be considered at its meetings in the coming civic year, including the Consultation Strategy 2022-2027, District Wide Survey 2022, Crime and Disorder and consideration of terms of reference for the Task and Finish group.
- (3) That the Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan Extract as attached as Appendix B be considered.

**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