

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

19 November 2018

Present: Councillor Humphreys in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Chambers, N Dirveiks, Farrell, Hayfield, Phillips, Reilly, Simpson and D Wright

Councillors Clews, Symonds and Waters were also in attendance.

38 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest.**

None were declared at the meeting.

39 **Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 17 September 2018.**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 17 September 2018, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

40 **External Auditors' Report**

The Corporate Director - Resources presented the 2017/18 Annual Audit Letter received from the Council's external auditors, Ernst & Young LLP.

Recommended:

That the report presented as Appendix A be noted.

41 **Key Corporate Issues**

The Chief Executive drew Members' attention to the key Corporate issues facing the Council in the mid-term future. He sought to assist Members in addressing these issues during the finalisation of the 2019/20 Corporate Plan and Budget and further in the lead up to next year's Elections.

Recommended:

That the issues raised in the report of the Chief Executive be taken into consideration by Members when preparing the Corporate Plan and Budget for 2019/20 and beyond.

42 **Council Tax Support Scheme**

The Corporate Director - Community outlined the recommended Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20 and the Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Recommended:

- a **That the retention of a 91.5% reduction maximum Council Tax Support Scheme for all current working age customers, in 2019/20, be approved; and**
- b **That the Council Tax Support Scheme adopted in 2019/20 be updated in line with the statutory increases as notified by the Department of Work and Pensions.**

43 **Constitution Task and Finish Group and Constitution Changes**

The Corporate Director - Environment advised Members of changes to the Constitution suggested by the Task and Finish Group and the Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Recommended:

- a **That changes to the Constitution highlighted in the report of the Corporate Director - Environment be agreed; and**
- b **That a further meeting be arranged to consider an overview of different governance models.**

44 **Calendar of Meetings 2019/20**

The Board was asked to approve a calendar of meetings for 2019/20.

Recommended:

That the calendar of meetings for 2019/20 as submitted at Appendix A to the Chief Executive's report be approved.

45 **Budgetary Control Report 2018/19 - Period Ended 31 October 2018**

The Corporate Director - Resources reported on the revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 October 2018. The 2018/2019 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date, was also given,

together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to the Board.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

46 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April – September 2018**

The Chief Executive informed Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Executive Board for April to September 2018.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

47 **HS2 Update and Consultation**

The Corporate Director - Environment sought delegated power to agree the Council's consultation response to the latest HS2 consultations.

Recommended:

That, in consultation with the two Group Spokespersons on HS2, the Corporate Director – Environment be given delegated power to respond to the Environmental Statement and Equality Impact Statement in respect of Phase 2b of HS2.

48 **Gifts and Hospitality Policy**

The Corporate Director - Environment submitted a revised Gifts and Hospitality Policy and a revised Employee Code of Conduct for approval.

Recommended:

- a **That, subject to minor amendments to the text as discussed at the meeting, the Gifts and Hospitality Policy attached to the report Corporate Director - Environment be adopted; and**
- b **That the Employee Code of Conduct attached to the report of the Corporate Director – Environment be adopted.**

49 **Minutes of the meeting of the Special Sub-Group held on 9 October 2018**

The minutes of the meeting of the Special Sub-Group held on 9 October 2018 were received and noted.

50 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

51 **Senior Management Changes**

The Board was invited to consider the setting up a Sub-Committee to manage the process of putting succession arrangements in place, required by the Chief Executive's forthcoming retirement.

Recommended:

i) That a Sub-Committee be set up for the purposes of agreeing and managing the process of putting succession arrangements in place required by the forthcoming retirement of the Chief Executive, including:-

(a) any interim management or other staffing requirements/appointments, and

(b) selection processes and procedures, together with obtaining external consulting services, if required.

ii) That the Sub-Committee comprise Councillors Chambers, Farrell, D Humphreys, Symonds and D Wright.

52 **Building Control Service**

The Board was asked to approve an additional budget provision of £15,200 to be included in the 2019/20 budget to support the future provision of the Building Control service.

Recommended:

- a That an additional budget provision of £15,200 be included in the 2019/20 budget to support the future provision of the service; and**
- b That the Building Control function is delegated to Lichfield District Council as the host authority, with a continuing delegation to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to deal with any matters relating to the existing partnership.**

David Humphreys
Chairman