

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting: Wednesday, 22nd June, 2022
at 2.00 pm. (Committee Room No. 4)

Present: Councillors Brook (Chairman), L. Roberts (Vice-Chair) (Minutes No 17 to 23 and 26 and 27), Barlow, Biggins, Hamilton, McClure, Maddox, Morgan, Shirley and Wall.

Officers Present: Susan Roberts (Director of Resources), Steph Cordon (Director of People and Place), Helen Houston (Head of Regeneration and Planning Policy) (Minute Nos.17 to 21 and 26) and Jon Huck (Democratic and Electoral Services Manager).

17 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Ronson.

Apologies for absence were also received from Sam Plum (Chief Executive) and Debbie Storr (Head of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer).

18 The Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and Access to Information (Variation) Order 2006

Discussion arising hereon it was:-

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 involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (Minute No.24) and Paragraphs 3 and 5 (Minute No.25) of Part One of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

19 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Hamilton, Shirley and Wall declared an Other Registrable Interest in Agenda Item 8 – Final Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions SPD. They were a Member of Cumbria County Council.

20 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May, 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

21 Public Participation

RESOLVED:- To note that no questions, representations, deputations or petitions had been received in respect of the meeting.

22 Regrading Policy and Procedure

The Director of Resources reminded the Committee that a moratorium which had been placed upon the Regrading Scheme had been lifted by Council on 18 May 2022.

The Regrading Scheme enabled employees to apply for a change in the grading of a role where the level and scope of responsibilities had changed significantly.

The report contained the Regrading Policy & Procedure (the Scheme) that was an update of the existing principles with some specific changes to reflect the scope of the update and Local Government Reorganisation.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Morgan, and

RESOLVED:-

1. To approve the updated Regrading Policy & Procedure (the Scheme) as attached to the report;
2. To agree that Group Leaders inform the Head of HR of the nominations to the Regrading Appeals Panel in accordance with proportionality rules (3:1:0) in due course; and
3. To agree that a union representative observed the Regrading Panels.

23 Council Finances

The Director of Resources report contained several financial matters that were brought forward ahead of the normal quarterly financial monitoring.

She reported that the Council's electricity prices had been received and the gas prices were still awaited; the Minimum Revenue Provision was presented for a specific review; there were Business Rate write offs to approve; and the Local Government Reorganisation Section 24 Direction had been made with the Structural Changes Order.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Morgan, and

RESOLVED:-

1. To approve the use of financial reserves to supplement the electricity budget within the General Fund for 2022-2023;
2. To note that the Medium Term Financial Plan shall be updated to reflect the increased energy costs;
3. To agree the Council's MRP Policy;
4. To approve the write off of the Business Rate arrears noted that resulted from bankruptcy; and
5. To note the provisions and requirements of the Section 24 Direction and General Consent as attached to the report.

Local Government Act 1972 - Excluded Items

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Wall that the meeting moved into Part Two, and

RESOLVED:- That the items to be taken in Part Two of the Agenda be dealt with following the exclusion of the press and the public.

24 Supported Accommodation

The Director of Resources presented a report to extend temporary funding drawn from the Homelessness Prevention Grant.

It was moved by Councillor Barlow seconded by Councillor Hamilton and,

RESOLVED:-

1. To agree to extend the temporary funding from the Homelessness Prevention Grant as set out in the Part Two report;
2. To authorise the Director of Resources to vary the terms of the funding agreement; and
3. To agree to refer the report to the Overview and Scrutiny for information.

25 Service Delivery Update

The Director of People and Place gave the Committee a Service Delivery update.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Barlow and,

RESOLVED:- That the resolutions as set out in the Exempt Minute be agreed.

<p style="text-align: center;">REFERRED ITEM</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">THE FOLLOWING MATTERS ARE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION</p>
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26 Final Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions SPD

The Head of Regeneration and Planning Policy's report sought approval of the Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for Barrow.

The SPD sets out the Council's proposed approach to the delivery of affordable housing and to seeking financial contributions from developers for infrastructure and services. The document had been prepared under the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Roberts and

RESOLVED:-

1. To note the content of the Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions SPD and the consultation which had been undertaken; and
2. To agree that the SPD be submitted to Council for adoption.

27 Officer Delegation Scheme

The report of the Monitoring Officer sought approval to an addition to the delegation scheme to reflect the new post of Capital Programme Manager. Existing delegations were to Heads of Service and the Deputy Director of People and Place. Members were requested to authorise the Capital Programme Manager

“Authority to exercise any power delegated to his/her Director in this Section of Part 3 that relates to his/her Directors’ area of responsibility” and “Authority to enter into contracts in accordance the contract standing orders within the Council’s Constitution within the agree Management Limits”.

An extract from the constitution showing the proposed revisions highlighted was attached as Appendix 1 of the report.

It was moved by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hamilton and

RESOLVED:- To recommend the Council to agree to the Officer Delegation Scheme as shown in paragraph 3.1 to the report.

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm.