

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2015

Present:

Councillor Callow (in the Chair)

Councillors

Benson	Cox	Jones	Ryan
Blackburn	Critchley	Kirkland	Scott
Brown	Cross	Matthews	Singleton
Mrs Callow JP	Elmes	Maycock	Smith
Campbell	Galley	Mitchell	Stansfield
Clapham	Mrs Henderson MBE	O'Hara	I Taylor
D Coleman	Humphreys	Owen	L Williams
G Coleman	Hunter	Robertson BEM	T Williams
I Coleman	Hutton	Roberts	Mrs Wright
Collett	Jackson	Rowson	

In Attendance:

Neil Jack, Chief Executive

John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Alan Cavill, Director of Place

Delyth Curtis, Director of People

Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health

Karen Smith, Deputy Director of People (Adult Services)

Steve Thompson, Director of Resources

Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Regulatory Services/ Monitoring Officer

Lorraine Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance

Yvonne Burnett, Democratic Governance Senior Advisor

Joe Robinson, Communications Officer

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2015

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 July 2015 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements on this occasion.

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4 EXECUTIVE AND COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY REPORTS TO COUNCIL

The Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader of the Council presented reports to the Council on work undertaken in their own portfolio area and those portfolios under their responsibility. The Leader also presented the report on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary. The reports covered corporate, strategic and policy issues, together with work being undertaken in transforming services and with partners. Council representatives of the Fire Authority also presented a report on the work of the authority from the meetings held in April and June 2015. Questions, comments and debate were invited from all councillors on each of the report areas.

Note:

In response to a question from Councillor Clapham, Councillor Campbell agreed to clarify whether the 55% of the contracts awarded to local suppliers stated in the report, related to the value of contracts. Councillor Campbell also agreed to confirm to Councillor Williams whether the information on the costs for the tramway consultant was commercially sensitive.

5 CONSTITUTIONAL, PROPER OFFICER AND STATUTORY OFFICER CHANGES

Members were aware of the temporary arrangements that were in place for Delyth Curtis to undertake the role of statutory Director of Children's Services and for Karen Smith to undertake the role of statutory Director of Adult Services and noted that these were due to expire at the end of September. The Council was informed that a meeting of the Chief Officer's Employment Committee had been unable to take place to review the senior management arrangements and therefore proposals were made for the arrangements to be extended until 30 November 2015.

Members considered proposals for the Proper Officer for Registration Services to be Joceline Greenaway, the Head of Registration and Bereavement Services which was a similar arrangement in other local authorities and was supported by the Registrar General's office. They also considered proposals for the Scrutiny Manager to continue to undertake the role of Statutory Scrutiny Officer and noted that Sharon Davis would undertake role in this respect.

The Council went on to consider an updated definition of a key decision following a review of the decision making criteria where it had been felt that clarification was necessary as to whether further key decision was needed when a decision had been clearly referenced within the budget.

Members also considered proposed changes to the Financial Procedure Rules in terms of expenditure incurred in excess of individual budget heads, to reflect the current financial climate of local government.

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Motion: Councillor Blackburn proposed (and Councillor Williams seconded):

- '1. To extend until 30 November 2015 the appointment of Delyth Curtis as statutory Director of Children's Services (as defined in Section 18 of the Children Act 2004) and Karen Smith as statutory Director of Adult Services (as defined in Section 6(1) of the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970), for the reasons set out in paragraph 5.2 of the Council report.
2. To appoint Joceline Greenaway (the Head of Bereavement and Registration Services) as Proper Officer for Registration Services (as defined under the Registration Service Act 1953).
3. To approve the revised definition for a key decision, as set out in paragraph 5.6 of the Council report.
4. To amend the Council's Financial Procedure Rules as set out in paragraph 5.8 of the Council report.
5. To agree that Sharon Davis be appointed the statutory scrutiny officer as defined in paragraphs 5.8 and 5.9 of the Council report.'

Motion carried: The motion was submitted to the Council and carried.

Mayor

(The meeting ended at 6.39 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

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