



County Council

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester,
DT1 1XJ on Thursday, 16 February 2017.

Present:

Hilary Cox (Vice-Chairman)

Pauline Batstone, Richard Biggs, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Deborah Croney, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Ian Gardner, Robert Gould, Matt Hall, Peter Hall, David Harris, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, Susan Jefferies, David Jones, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, David Mannings, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, Clare Sutton, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Officers Attending: Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Helen Coombes (Interim Director for Adult and Community Services), Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services), Jonathan Mair (Head of Organisational Development - Monitoring Officer), Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager) and Fiona King (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the County Council to be held on **Thursday, 18 May 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Andrew Cattaway, Andy Canning, Lesley Dedman, Steven Lugg and Mark Tewkesbury. Belated apologies were also received from Cllrs Barrie Cooper and Mervyn Jeffery.

At this point the Chief Executive reported that she had received formal notification from Cllr Mike Byatt that he had joined the Conservative Group of the County Council and that this would take effect from the beginning of the meeting.

Code of Conduct

2 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

3 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2016 and 26 January 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

4 Public Speaking

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Leader's Announcements

- 5 Cllr Robert Gould, as the Leader of the Council, reported on the following issues facing the Council and invited questions from all members:

Local Government Reorganisation

Cllr Gould updated members following the special Council meeting held on 26 January 2017 to consider the future of Local Government in Dorset, and confirmed that a submission had been made to the Secretary of State to replace the existing nine councils with two new councils. It was noted that all documents, together with the submission, were available on www.futuredorset.co.uk. An indication of a decision would hopefully be made known prior to the Council's pre-election period in late March 2017 following initial positive feedback on the quality of the submission. Cllr Gould clarified that whatever decision was made, the Council would want to continue to work in a positive and constructive way with all councils in Dorset towards wider public sector reform.

Democratic Communication and Engagement

Following a request by Cllr Paul Kimber in relation to the future webcasting of Council meetings, Cllr Gould undertook to examine ways of making meetings more accessible to enable residents of Dorset to see and participate in meetings.

Noted

Questions from County Councillors

- 6 The following questions were asked under Standing Order 20:

1. Cllr Paul Kimber asked the Cabinet Member for Adult Health, Care and Independence a question in relation to Tricuro.
2. Cllr Susan Jefferies asked the Cabinet Member for Learning, Skills and Children's Safeguarding questions in relation to Youth Clubs. Cllr Jefferies welcomed the response and participation in the forthcoming Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services on 27 February 2017.
3. Cllr Richard Biggs asked the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Highways a question in relation to Emergency Planning.

The questions and answers are attached to these minutes as Annexure 1.

Reports of the Cabinet

The reports of the Cabinet meetings held on 16 November, 14 December 2016, 18 January and 1 February 2017 were presented for adoption, together with recommendations from the meeting held on 21 February 2017 for approval.

Meeting held on 16 November 2016

7 Resolved

That the report of the Cabinet meeting held on 16 November 2016 be adopted.

Meeting held on 14 December 2016

8 Asset Management Capital Priorities

Attention was drawn to the costs and timescales for delivery of the new school at Marsh Lane in Christchurch which was originally due to be completed in September 2017, but had been delayed. Cllr Robert Gould confirmed that local members were fully briefed on the situation and the Modernising Schools Programme Board was aware of the risks and was considering mitigation as a result of the delay. A further briefing would be provided for members outside of the meeting.

Resolved

That the report of the Cabinet meeting held on 14 December 2016 be adopted.

Meeting held on 18 January 2017**9 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children**

In response to questions on minute 10, as to whether help and support would continue for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children in Dorset, it was confirmed that the Cabinet had clearly stated that the Council was prepared to accept and secure places for asylum seeking children where it was possible to do so, and to provide the best possible care. However, there was a need for children to be funded appropriately by Government, and currently they were significantly underfunded by £70k per child, despite recent national developments regarding the number of children accepted into the Country. It was acknowledged that representations would be made through MPs and the South West Leaders' Group to draw a comparison with the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme.

Call to Account – Ironman Event

In relation to minute 7, an update was sought in relation to the adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding to be used in partnership with organisers for a range of largescale events across Dorset to avoid issues experienced at the Ironman event on 11 September 2016. Members were informed that the process of using a Memorandum of Understanding was in place and would enable cooperation with organisers, and that all would be done to run future events as a success.

Recommendation 9 – Final Report of the Policy Development Panel on Registration

In relation to minute 8, the willingness of the Cabinet to enable Christchurch Borough Council to explore options for a suitable alternative service model for the local area was commended, and assurance was provided that discussions were ongoing to agree the service model.

Resolved

That the report of the Cabinet meeting held on 18 January 2017 be adopted.

Meeting held on 1 February 2017

- 10 (Notes: 1. Members had been granted dispensations in order to take part and vote in relation to the budget and council tax setting items on the agenda following the elections held in 2013, and subsequent by-elections.
2. The Chairman highlighted that the Council was required to take a recorded vote following discussion of the budget.)

In advance of the budget debate, the following issues were raised in relation to the minutes of the Cabinet on 1 February 2017:

Changes to Dorset's Concessionary Travel Scheme

Members discussed the impact of the Concessionary Travel Scheme at minute 28, which highlighted that there were 60 community transport schemes, and 20 in planning, which included examples of partnership with Dorset Community Transport. Concerns were also expressed about the impact on rural isolation as a result of the withdrawal of subsidised bus services, to which it was explained that there was a plan to revitalise bus services to make them more inclusive, which would include opening school buses to the public and enabling travel before 9:30am. It was noted that there were some commercial and contract implications as the procurement process for the future contracts was currently underway.

Further concern was expressed regarding the threat of withdrawal of subsidised services from areas of deprivation including Portland, and a request was made for further support as communities in deprived areas were less able to manage community transport schemes. Members were informed that effort would be made to find solutions to best meet the needs of communities, including Portland.

Recommendation 23 – Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and Budget 2017/18 to 2019/20

Cllr Gould, the Leader of the Council, presented the budget for 2017/18 to 2019/20 (a copy of the Leader's speech is set out in an annexure to these minutes). He proposed the recommendations put forward by the Cabinet. The proposals were seconded by Peter Finney as the Deputy Leader.

Cllr Janet Dover, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, then addressed the meeting and expressed concern regarding continued cuts to budgets and essential services, the amount of reserves and balances, the level of borrowing, and the influence of Government on Council funding for 'life and death' services for children and adults. Particular concern was raised in respect of future planned savings regarding the change of terms and conditions for Tricuro staff just 12 months after transferring from the Council; the condition of Dorset's roads, specifically in relation to potholes; rural bus subsidies which could leave people isolated; and the need for increased funding for adult social care to enable people to leave hospital and live in their homes, or in a care home. Cllr Dover also described a petition which was currently open and attracting in excess of 1200 signatures in only a few days, which showed that cuts to bus services were not welcomed by Dorset residents.

Cllr Paul Kimber, Leader of Labour and Cooperative Group, addressed the meeting to thank the finance team for their hard work, and to staff for continued hard work bearing in mind the financial challenges facing the Council. He expressed concern regarding any plans for privatisation of any services; that more should be done to focus on homelessness and housing for those in need; the need to provide affordable housing; reinvigoration of towns in relation to vacant shops through the Economy Team; the need to retain and improve hospital provision on Portland; support for buses on Portland being championed by Cllr Kate Wheller; and that committee and council meetings should be webcast to show residents of Dorset what was being debated and to understand the challenges facing the Council.

In addition, Cllr Kimber drew attention to previous motions brought to the Council throughout 2016/17 including the development of a national park scheme in Dorset and the consideration of a cooperative approach for the Council for the future. As a final point, he encouraged the finance team to explore becoming a pilot Business Rate Retention Scheme authority.

Members took the opportunity to ask questions regarding the budget setting process and particular items within the budget, and Cabinet members responded to each of the individual points raised. Issues discussed included the collapse in finance from Government which meant that the Council was woefully underfunded; the model of bidding from Government and the UK wide funding regime; the level of borrowing across the authority; the level of council reserves and balances; the Council Tax levels across Dorset; risk in the budget including the Sustainability and Transformation Plan; the Accord review and restructuring of services; provision of the Youth Service; rationalisation of the Council's property estate and timing of changes, including a 43% increase of staff working at County Hall; the level of homelessness across Dorset; reduction in support and funding directly to the most vulnerable; the impact of rural isolation and loneliness as a result of reducing bus subsidies; community transport schemes; bed blocking in hospitals and the level of support for people wishing to live at home; lobbying and stating that the budgetary situation was not acceptable to Government; the need for the Council to modernise and change to meet the needs of the public; absence of an alternative budget proposed; costs for rubbish to be taken to a household recycling centre; education across the County, and in particular at IPACA; and recognition of the role of carers across the County.

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendation 23.1(a) were recorded as follows:-

For (25): Pauline Batstone, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Ian Gardner, Robert Gould, Peter Hall, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, David Jones, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh and Peter Wharf.

Against (13): Richard Biggs, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Matt Hall, David Harris, Susan Jefferies, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, David Mannings, Clare Sutton and Kate Wheller.

Abstain (0)

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendation 23.1(b) were recorded as follows:-

For (25): Pauline Batstone, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Ian Gardner, Robert Gould, Peter Hall, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, David Jones, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh and Peter Wharf.

Against (11): Richard Biggs, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Matt Hall, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, David Mannings, Clare Sutton and Kate Wheller.

Abstain (2): David Harris and Susan Jefferies.

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendation 23.1(c) were recorded as follows:-

For (33): Pauline Batstone, Richard Biggs, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Ian Gardner, Robert Gould, Matt Hall, Peter Hall, David Harris, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, David Jones, Trevor Jones, Paul Kimber, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, David Mannings, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, Clare Sutton, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Against (5): Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Susan Jefferies and Ros Kayes.

Abstain (0)

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendations 23.2, 3 and 4 were recorded as follows:-

For (37): Pauline Batstone, Richard Biggs, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Ian Gardner, Robert Gould, Matt Hall, Peter Hall, David Harris, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, Susan Jefferies, David Jones, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, David Mannings, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Against (0)

Abstain (1): Clare Sutton

Recommendation 24 – Asset Management Capital Priorities

Following a question regarding the recognition of housing as a strategic asset for the Council, it was confirmed that there was a workstream of the Way we Work Programme, chaired by Cllr Steve Butler, which was looking at housing with district and borough councils. It was also highlighted that through partnership working, the wider public sector in Dorset was developing an action plan on housing to concentrate on areas such as key worker housing, which linked with the key priorities of the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Leaders' Growth Board.

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendation 24 were recorded as follows:-

For (26): Pauline Batstone, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni

Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Robert Gould, Peter Hall, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, David Jones, Paul Kimber, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Against (11): Richard Biggs, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Matt Hall, David Harris, Susan Jefferies, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, David Mannings and Clare Sutton.

Abstain (0)

Recommendation 25 – Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2017-18

In accordance with Standing Order 44, the votes for and against Recommendation 25 (Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2017-18) were recorded as follows:-

For (37): Pauline Batstone, Richard Biggs, Steve Butler, Mike Byatt, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Hilary Cox, Deborah Croney, Janet Dover, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Peter Finney, Spencer Flower, Robert Gould, Matt Hall, Peter Hall, David Harris, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson, Susan Jefferies, David Jones, Trevor Jones, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, Rebecca Knox, Mike Lovell, David Mannings, Andrew Parry, Margaret Phipps, Peter Richardson, Clare Sutton, William Trite, Daryl Turner, David Walsh, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Resolved

That the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 16 November, 14 December 2016, 18 January and 1 February 2017 be adopted and Recommendations 23, 24 and 25 (below) from the meeting held on 1 February 2017 be approved.

Recommendation 23 – Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and Budget 2017/18 to 2019/20

1. That the County Council be recommended to approve:
 - a) the revenue budget strategy for 2017/18 to 2019/20
 - b) the budget requirement and precept for 2017/18
 - c) the position on general balances and reserves
2. That the Chief Financial Officer present to the County Council a schedule setting out the Council Tax for each category of dwelling and the precepts on each of the Dorset Councils for 2017/18.
3. That the Budget Strategy Task and Finish Group continue in order to develop savings proposals to address budget gaps over the remainder of the MTFP period.
4. That the role of the Forward Together Programme is clarified to ensure managers are held to account for their budgets and ensure that specific, measurable actions are put in place to ensure budgets at risk are managed within the funding parameters agreed by Elected Members.

Reason for Recommendations

To approve the Council Tax increase for 2017/18 and to enable work to continue on refining and managing the County Council's budget strategy for the remaining MTFP period.

Recommendation 24 – Asset Management Capital Priorities

That the County Council be recommended to approve the bids to be included in the capital programme 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Reason for Recommendation

The available resources after taking account of committed projects were insufficient to meet all the new bids in their entirety. It was therefore necessary for the Cabinet to confirm priorities for inclusion in the Capital Programme.

Recommendation 25 – Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2017-18

That the County Council be recommended to approve:

1. The Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2017/18 to 2019/20.
2. The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement.
3. The Treasury Management Strategy.
4. The Investment Strategy.
5. Delegation to the Chief Financial Officer to determine the most appropriate means of funding the Capital Programme.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. The Prudential Code provided a framework under which the Council's capital finance decisions were carried out. It required the Council to demonstrate that its capital expenditure plans were affordable, external borrowing was within prudent and sustainable levels and treasury management decisions were taken in accordance with professional good practice. Adherence to the Prudential Code was mandatory as set out in the Local Government Act 2003.
2. The report recommended the indicators to be applied by the Council for the financial years 2017/18 to 2019/20. The successful implementation of the code would assist in the Council's objective of developing 'public services fit for the future'.

People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 11 January 2017

- 11 The report of the People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 January 2017 was presented.

Cllr David Walsh, as the Chairman of the Committee, updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Committee. He made reference to a recent Inquiry day that had been held on care costs which had been very successful and would lead to further lines of scrutiny.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 19 January 2017

- 12 The report of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 19 January 2017 was presented.

Cllr Pauline Batstone, as the Chairman of the Committee, updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Committee and advised that an Inquiry Day on Domestic Abuse would be scheduled shortly.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 25 January 2017

- 13 The report of the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 January 2017 was presented.

Cllr Daryl Turner, as the Chairman of the Committee, updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Committee. He highlighted some of the improvements that had been made and the aim to strive for improvements in the future. On behalf of the Committee he thanked the Committee Clerk for his hard work as a facilitator for the Committee.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee - 14 November 2016

- 14 The report of the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee held on 14 November 2017 was presented.

Cllr Ronald Coatsworth, as the Chairman of the Committee, updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Committee.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee - 21 December 2016

- 15 The report of the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee held on 21 December 2017 was presented.

Cllr Ronald Coatsworth, as the Chairman of the Committee, updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Committee.

Minute 60 – Draft Primary Care Commissioning Strategy and Plan

Following a question regarding consultation with members of the public by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on GP commissioning Cllr Jill Haynes, as the Cabinet Member for Adult Health, Care and Independence, who also sat as the Health and Wellbeing Board member on the Primary Care Board, advised that she had raised this issue with the Board. She continued that it was not the CCG's intention to close GP surgeries but to amalgamate some to improve their services. It would be important for a discussion to be had with patients of those GPs that no longer wished to carry on with the service. In respect of any practices that amalgamated it was advised that the CCG were well aware that practices needed to operate in rural areas and the focus was on keeping practices in the rural communities.

In response to a comment about members of the Health Scrutiny Committee not receiving any detailed NHS proposals, the Chairman advised that although wide consultation had been undertaken through a commissioning paper no plans had as yet been produced, only ideas of how things might work. The next scheduled meeting of the Committee on 20 February 2017 would include NHS representatives attending to discuss this further.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Recommendation - Statutory Officer Panel Terms of Reference (Disciplinary Investigation Process for the Chief Executive and Statutory Officers)

- 16 (Note: The Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Organisational Development (as the Monitoring Officer) left the meeting during consideration of this item.)

Cllr Trevor Jones, as the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee, presented the recommendation to which all members agreed.

Resolved

That the terms of reference for the Statutory Officer Panel so that the Panel comprises Independent Persons only, be approved.

Reason for Decision

The Staffing Committee dealt with issues relating to disciplinary action or capability in respect of the Chief Executive, Directors, Statutory Officers and Heads of Service. If this recommendation was accepted then Independent Persons would play an advisory role, but any decision to dismiss would still be one for the full County Council.

Recommendation - Appointing the External Auditor

- 17 Cllr Trevor Jones, as the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee, presented the recommendations to which all members agreed.

Resolved

That the County Council agree to:-

1. Opt into the sector-led auditor procurement process being led by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA); and,
2. Delegate responsibility to the Chief Financial Officer to ensure that the County Council is active in supporting delivery of best value for money arrangements across all Dorset Councils in light of LGR arrangements yet to be confirmed.

Reasons for Decisions

1. To enable officers of the County Council to progress arrangements for the appointment of the Authority's external auditor.
2. To ensure the Chief Financial Officer and his staff could work effectively with other Dorset Councils to ensure best value for money and deliver effective and efficient audit arrangements in the transition to potential new governance structures across the county.

Recommendation - Constitutional Changes

- 18 Cllr Trevor Jones, as the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee, presented the recommendation to change arrangements for County Council meetings and summarised the changes. He advised members that he welcomed further discussion in respect of taking the minutes of the overview and scrutiny meetings off of Council agendas.

Cllr Janet Dover, as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, expressed concern that the removal of the minutes would give less accessibility for members to the business of the Council and she proposed an amendment 'that all overview and scrutiny committee minutes would continue to be presented at meetings of the County Council'.

Following a discussion, the Chairman felt there would be no harm to keep them included on Council agendas, to which the Overview and Scrutiny Committee chairmen agreed. Cllr Daryl Turner, as the Chairman of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee, added that whilst the minutes were available for all on the Dorset For you website, members could ask questions at any time.

Cllr Pauline Batstone, as the Chairman of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee, seconded the amendment proposed by Cllr Janet Dover, and on being put to the vote the amendment was agreed. Following the vote on the amendment, the substantive motion was voted upon and was agreed.

Resolved

That constitutional changes in relation to the arrangements for County Council meetings be approved as detailed below:

1. Reporting of deaths of former members – To be referred to in Chairman's Announcements only and not to hold tributes to former members unless they were serving on the Council when they died. Democratic Services would coordinate tributes to historic members outside of the meeting, as detailed within the report.
2. Notices of Motion – To retain the current arrangements, with the addition of flexibility in the arrangements to be able to debate matters of strategic importance if deemed appropriate (to be determined by the Chairman and the Chief Executive).
3. Minutes of Meetings – That all overview and scrutiny committee minutes would continue to be presented at meetings of the County Council. A verbal report from Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees would also be received at each

meeting.

4. Minutes of Outside Organisations – Removal of minutes from the agenda and expand this section of the agenda to provide a ‘Partnership Brief’ from strategic partners on a rotational basis.

5. Lunches for Council meetings – To continue to use Oh Crumbs as the lunch provider for Council lunches.

Reason for Decisions

To contribute to the corporate aim to “provide innovative and value for money services”.

Recommendation - Pay Policy Statement 2017/18

19 Cllr Robert Gould, as the Chairman of the Staffing Committee, presented the recommendation to members.

Cllr Trevor Jones, as a County Councillor for Dorchester, drew members’ attention to a table within the statement which recorded the pay between the top and bottom of the organisation which had been narrowing over the years which he felt was very encouraging.

Resolved

That the Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18 be approved.

Reason for Decision

The Staffing Committee oversees matters relating to staff terms and conditions.

LGPS Investment Reform and Pooling - Approval of the Full Business Case for the Brunel Pension Partnership

20 Cllr Peter Wharf, as a member of the Pension Fund Committee, explained that the Committee had considered and supported the Full Business Case for the Brunel Pension Partnership.

Noted

Appointments to Committees

21 Following the announcement at the beginning of the meeting that Cllr Mike Byatt would leave the Labour Group and join the Conservative Group with immediate effect, the following changes to committee appointments were reported to the meeting:

- Cllr Byatt to replace Cllr Hilary Cox on the Audit and Governance Committee; and,
- Cllr Byatt to replace Cllr Ronald Coatsworth on the Pension Fund Committee.

The Head of Organisational Development, as the Monitoring Officer, advised that there would be some impact on political proportionality and would alter entitlements to places on committees and undertook to inform members outside of the meeting.

To be able to deal with the resultant changes to political proportionality and appointments to Committees, it was agreed that delegated authority be granted to Group Leaders to make any necessary changes following the meeting.

Resolved

1. That the changes to committee appointments and groups outlined in the minute above be agreed.
2. That delegated authority be granted to Group Leaders to make any necessary changes to appointments to committees following the meeting.