



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 14 JULY 2020

11.00 AM (OR AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CABINET, WHICHEVER IS THE LATER)
ROOM CC2, COMMITTEE ROOM - COUNTY HALL, LEWES

++Please note that this meeting is taking place remotely++

MEMBERSHIP - Councillor Keith Glazier (Chair)
Councillors Nick Bennett, Godfrey Daniel, Rupert Simmons and David Tutt

A G E N D A

- 1 Minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2020 (*Pages 3 - 4*)
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Disclosures of interests
Disclosures by all members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 4 Urgent items
Notification of items which the Chair considers to be urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda. Any members who wish to raise urgent items are asked, wherever possible, to notify the Chair before the start of the meeting. In so doing, they must state the special circumstances which they consider justify the matter being considered urgent.
- 5 Partnership Working (*Pages 5 - 6*)
Report by Assistant Chief Executive
- 6 Appointment to Outside Bodies (*Pages 7 - 8*)
Report by Assistant Chief Executive
- 7 Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4

PHILIP BAKER
Assistant Chief Executive
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6 July 2020

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NOTE: This meeting will be broadcast live on the County Council's website. The broadcast is accessible at

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/webcasts/default.htm

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Governance Committee held at Committee Room, County Hall, Lewes on 23 June 2020.

PRESENT: Councillors Keith Glazier (Chair), Nick Bennett, Godfrey Daniel, Rupert Simmons and David Tutt

1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2020

1.1 RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 21 April 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2 REPORTS

2.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

3 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION - PENSION BOARD AND PENSION COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS

3.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding proposed changes to the Council's Constitution.

3.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to:

- 1) approve the:
 - i) Pension Committee Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 1
 - ii) Pension Board Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 2
 - iii) the Changes to the Officers Scheme of Delegation set out in Appendix 3;
- and
- 2) agree to amend the Constitution accordingly

4 REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

4.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding proposals from the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to the Chair of the Pension Committee.

4.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to:

- 1) approve the changes set out in the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel; and
- 2) amend the Members' Allowances Scheme accordingly.

5 VIRTUAL MEETINGS - SUPPLEMENTARY STANDING ORDERS

5.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding proposed procedure rules in relation to Council meetings held virtually as a result of Covid-19 disruption

5.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to:

1) agree the supplementary Standing Orders at appendix 1 to apply to meetings held virtually under temporary meetings regulations until 7 May 2021;

2) agree that Member non-attendance at a meeting during the period covered due to issues related to the virtual nature of the meeting be considered as an absence for a reason approved by the Council in relation to attendance requirements; and

3) agree to amend the Constitution accordingly.

6 AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - MEMBERSHIP OF THE EAST SUSSEX HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

6.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding a proposed change to the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.2 The Committee RESOLVED (by 4 votes to 1) to recommend the County Council to:

1) approve the revised terms of reference for the East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board as set out in appendix 1; and

2) agree to amend the Constitution accordingly
[Councillor David Tutt voted against this resolution]

7 AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION - DISCIPLINARY PROCESS FOR SENIOR OFFICERS

7.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer regarding proposed amendments to the Constitution in relation to disciplinary procedures for senior officers.

7.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to approve the amendments to the Council's Constitution as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report

Report to: Governance Committee
Date: 14 July 2020
By: Assistant Chief Executive
Title of report: Partnership Working
Purpose of report: To update and seek the view of the Governance Committee on the partnership working arrangement with West Sussex County Council to work as their improvement partner including sharing the services of the Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Governance Committee is recommended to note the report and endorse the continuation of the partnership arrangements

1. Background

- 1.1 In December 2019 the Cabinet approved the proposal to work with West Sussex County Council as an improvement partner including sharing the services of the Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council and other officers as required and the Leader of the Council working closely with the West Sussex Leader.
- 1.2 The agreement started on 6th January 2020 and the aim was for a first review after three months. There is also provision for both Councils to review the arrangement following the County Council elections in May 2021. Either Council will be able at any point to terminate the arrangement by providing notice of six months. The three month review has been delayed by the current coronavirus pandemic.
- 1.3 It was anticipated that following a due diligence period between January and March 2020, where a baseline for West Sussex improvement would be established, which would lead to the production of a detailed action plan for WSCC to enable both Councils to confirm plans, arrangements and commitment in April 2020. Recent events have delayed this, and it is now anticipated that the plan will now be considered by West Sussex County Council at its meeting on 17 July.
- 1.4 We have maintained the fundamental principle that East Sussex County Council will not suffer any financial detriment and the salary of the shared Chief Executive is split on a 50/50 basis between East and West Sussex County Council.

2. Benefits

- 2.1 Prior to the lockdown at the end of March and the prioritising of resources in consequence of that the two Council's corporate management teams held joint events with a view to sharing best practice, identifying areas of mutual support and exploring opportunities for where joint working will bring benefit.
- 2.2 During the pandemic we have worked together to share approach and practice in relation to our HR practices and responses, how we maintain the democratic process with virtual meetings. We have worked closely through the Sussex Resilience Forum on all aspects of the emergency response and continue to do so through the easing of lockdown and recovery structures and planning. We have shared information on the procurement of PPE and shared bulk order of face masks to secure improved

price. Work is ongoing regarding further joint procurements including accessing each other's Frameworks. There are ongoing discussions about waste and highways management and significant support has been provided by Children's Services to recruitment within WSCC. This closer working will reduce the risks to ESCC workforce development of a competitive rather than collaborative approach.

2.3 Close working between the Leaders, including through greater involvement with SE7 partners at Members and officer level, has strengthened our collective lobbying voice at local, regional and national level, including within CCN, LGA and with Government.

2.4 Partners across Sussex have welcomed the greater joint working and in particular the more joined up approach assists in exploring potential joint working in Adult Social Care and Health with a view to:

- Developing a consistent approach to whole system working with the NHS to improve outcomes for our residents
- Integrating working across East and West Sussex to address quality, capacity and sustainability for social care markets
- Developing an integrated approach to commissioning support for people with complex needs, including those with autism, cognitive impairments and mental ill health
- Putting in place a consistent framework for sharing best practice

3. Conclusion

3.1 The current emergency has provided a real test of the effectiveness and value of the joint arrangement. As we move into the recovery phase collaborative working will become all the more important in relation to working with partners, economic recovery/development and transport and infrastructure planning, Brexit preparations and work in response to Government initiatives. Members are therefore recommended to endorse the continuation of the arrangement.

Philip Baker
Assistant Chief Executive

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Report to: **Governance Committee**

Date: **14 July 2020**

By: **Assistant Chief Executive**

Title of report: **Appointments to Outside Bodies**

Purpose of report: **To receive an update in relation to appointments to outside bodies**

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Governance Committee is recommended to appoint a Councillor as a Council representative on the Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London (PATROL) Adjudication Joint Committee for the period to 11 May 2021

1. Supporting Information

1.1 The County Council is invited to appoint Members (and in some cases non-County Councillors are eligible) to serve on a wide range of outside bodies whose role has a relationship to a function of the County Council. The appointments are a vital part of the County Council's working in partnership with voluntary bodies, statutory agencies and the public and private sectors.

1.2 The Council has been invited to appoint a representative on the PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee because the Council undertakes civil parking enforcement and there is a statutory requirement for civil enforcement authorities to make provision for independent adjudication for appeals against civil traffic penalties. This is exercised by the Council joining the PATROL Joint Committee which provides resources for the Traffic Penalty Tribunal. The main function of the Joint Committee is to provide resources to support independent adjudicators and their staff who together comprise the Traffic Penalty Tribunal. The tribunal's appeal streams include:

- Parking
- Bus Lanes
- Road User Charging
- Littering from vehicles

1.3 PATROL also undertakes initiatives to support its member authorities and raise awareness of the objectives of civil enforcement.

1.4 Councillor Godfrey Daniel has expressed an interest in serving on the PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Committee is asked to agree to the appointment of a Councillor as a Council representative on the PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee for the period until 11 May 2021.

PHILIP BAKER
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Background Documents
None

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