

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Executive

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Monday, 11 December 2023

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Present:

S D T Woodward, Policy and Resources (Executive Leader)
I Bastable, Streetscene
Miss J Burton, Health & Public Protection
D G Foot, Housing
S D Martin, Planning and Development
Mrs S M Walker, Leisure and Community

Also in attendance:

Ms C Bainbridge, for item 9(1)
Mrs K K Trott, for item 9(1)



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies given for this meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 09 October 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Local Government Finance Policy Statement 2024/25

The Executive Leader announced that he has written to Suella Braverman, KC MP and Caroline Dinenage, MP regarding the recent publication of the Local Government Finance Policy Statement for 2024/25 urging them to encourage colleagues at the DLUHC to reconsider the stated position prior to the publication of the draft Local Government Finance Settlement later this month, specifically in respect of homelessness and emergency accommodation and also the council tax referendum threshold.

The Policy lacks flexibility for local authorities to raise costs to help them meet the rising costs relating to homelessness and for the council tax referendum threshold, the current method penalises those local authorities, such as Fareham, who set a low council tax.

Welborne Junction 10 Funding

The Executive Leader announced that he will be addressing Hampshire County Council's Cabinet tomorrow regarding the expected increase in the cost of the M27 Junction 10 Improvement Scheme which is now likely to exceed the funding available taking into account inflation and the increase in construction costs.

The Executive Leader reminded the meeting that the Junction 10 scheme was critical to the delivery of Welborne Garden Village and that the Right Hon Michael Gove, MP had recently given an assurance that it would not be allowed to fail as a result of any funding gap.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. PETITIONS

The Executive Leader made reference to a petition which had been received asking the Council to "Preserve Knowle Road trees and hedgerows". Whilst this petition is valid in that it has received over 50 signatures, there can be no further action with regard to it as it relates to a Welborne planning decision which cannot be over turned.

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

7. REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no references from other Committees made at this meeting.

8. HOUSING

(1) Housing Allocations Policy

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees to public consultation for a period of six weeks on the draft Housing Allocations Policy, as provided in Appendix A to the report.

9. POLICY AND RESOURCES

(1) Finance Monitoring 2023/24

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors Mrs C Bainbridge and Mrs K K Trott addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the Finance Monitoring Report.

(2) Treasury Monitoring and Capital Monitoring 2023/24

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the Treasury Management and Capital Monitoring report for 2023/24

10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that the public and representatives of the press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters to be dealt with involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

11. POLICY AND RESOURCES

(1) Irrecoverable Debts - Quarter 2

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that the debts listed in the confidential Appendix A to the report be written off as irrecoverable.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 6.25 pm).

..... Chairman

..... Date