

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 2 March 2021

Venue: Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs S M Bayford (Chairman)

Councillor N J Walker (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: T Davies, Mrs C L A Hockley, L Keeble, J G Kelly and I Bastable

**Also
Present:**



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies of absence.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that minutes of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel held on 5 January 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTION

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. UPDATE OF COVID IMPACT ON COUNCIL FINANCES, INCLUDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO BUSINESSES

The Panel considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, which provided an update of the Covid impact on Council finances including financial support to businesses.

The Head of Finance and Audit gave the Panel two presentations (which have been appended to these minutes, the first focusing on the impact of Covid on the Council's finances, and the second focusing on the financial support to businesses.

The Panel asked questions of the Head of Finance and Audit on several areas of her presentation, and all expressed their thanks to the officers for the continued hard work in this service.

RESOLVED that the Panel:

(a) note the content of the report; and

(b) thank the Head of Finance and Audit on her very informative presentation.

7. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The Panel considered the Executive items of business which fall under the remit of the Policy and Resources Portfolio, including Executive Member decisions and Officer delegated decisions, that have taken place since the last meeting of the Panel on 5 January 2021.

The Panel considered the decisions at items 7 (1) to 7 (8) of the agenda.

RESOLVED that the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel considered the following items of Executive Business.

(1) Finance Strategy, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2021/22

No comments were received.

(2) Fees and Charges 2021/22

No comments were received.

(3) Capital Programme and Capital Strategy 2021/22

No comments were received.

(4) Local Restrictions Supports Grants (Open) Scheme

No comments were received.

(5) Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2021/22

No comments were received.

(6) Housing Revenue Account 2021/22

No comments were received.

(7) Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22

No comments were received.

(8) Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

No comments were received.

8. SCRUTINY PRIORITIES

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer addressed the Panel on this item and addressed the changes that had been made to draft Scrutiny Priority Plan 2021/22 that had been discussed at the previous meeting.

Members were given the opportunity to put forward suggestions for items of business that they would like to scrutinise. Councillor Keeble, expressed an interest in seeing an item of Daedalus at the Panel, and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer confirmed that this was already scheduled for the Panel in the 2021/22 plan. Councillor Keeble, also suggested that, as part of the Panel's remit is to scrutinise the Council's finances, an item on advertising opportunities could be brought to a future meeting of the Panel.

Councillor Bastable expressed a keen interest in the postponed item on the Council's Carbon Reduction Plan being brought back to the Panel as soon as possible. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer confirmed that there will be a special meeting of the Panel convened to review this over the next few months.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.10 pm).