

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held as a hybrid meeting in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, and virtually on Monday, 26 April 2021 at 10:00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Steve Fritchley in the Chair

Councillors Duncan McGregor (Vice-Chair), Nick Clarke, Mary Dooley, Clive Moesby, Liz Smyth and Deborah Watson.

Officers:- Lee Hickin (Director of Corporate Resources & Head of Paid Service), Karen Hanson (Director of Environment and Enforcement), Grant Galloway (Director of Development), Sarah Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer), Theresa Fletcher (Head of Finance and Resources & Section 151 Officer), Ian Barber (Head of Property Services & Housing Repairs), Pam Brown (Head of Leader's Executive and Partnerships), Diane Bonsor (Housing Needs Manager), Nicola Calver (Governance Manager), and Amy Bryan (Senior Governance Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting was Councillor Tricia Clough.

EX103-20/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sandra Peake.

EX104-20/21 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to be considered at the meeting.

EX105-20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

Councillor Clive Moesby declared an interest in Item 9 – Independent Living Service as he was a Member of Derbyshire County Council and the report was regarding a contract extension from Derbyshire County Council.

EX106-20/21 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Mary Dooley
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 22 March 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

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MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY

None

BUDGET & POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

None

NON KEY DECISIONS

EX107-20/21 THE FUTURE OF VIRTUAL MEETINGS - OUTCOME OF THE HIGH COURT CASE

The Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer reported that there had been no judgement yet from the High Court regarding the future of virtual meetings so a briefing note would be provided once the outcome was known.

EX108-20/21 AGILE WORKING/NEW WAYS OF WORKING

The Joint Director of Corporate Resources and Head of Paid Service gave a presentation on agile working and new ways of working.

The presentation covered the Council's Transformation Programme, which had five aims: service transformation; transforming finances; transforming our environment; organisational transformation; and digital transformation. Details were given of the Council's Covid-19 Recovery Plan and the set out the work that had taken place so far. This included developing an Agile Working Policy, which had recently been adopted by Council. The key aims of the policy were detailed, one of which was to promote a culture of agile working that met organisational need and supported employee wellbeing. The expected outcomes of the Agile Working Policy were also set out, along with the next steps.

The Joint Director of Corporate Resources and Head of Paid Service concluded that during all this work it was important not to lose the excellent culture that had been built at the Council.

Councillor McGregor stated that the role of Councillors was to provide services to the public. He added that the Council had a good workforce and he was proud of what had been achieved so far through working together.

RESOLVED that the updated be noted.

EX109-20/21 ADAPTED ACCOMMODATION - BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL STOCK

Executive considered the report of Portfolio Holder – Housing which provided information to Members regarding the supply, management and allocation of Council owned adapted accommodation.

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The report stated that the Council had recently been approached by applicants seeking very specific accommodation as a result of having younger family members with disabilities. Although these applications were relatively rare, they had raised the issue of the supply of family sized adapted accommodation. The report provided information regarding the supply, management and allocation of Council owned adapted accommodation. The report also recommended a scrutiny review of the service area be carried out.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Steve Fritchley
RESOLVED that:

- 1) the report be noted
- 2) the Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Scrutiny Committee include a review on Council owned adapted accommodation within their work programme.

(Director of Environment and Enforcement)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report was for information regarding the supply, allocation and management of Council owned adapted properties. It sought to inform members and to recommend that scrutiny review the process and prepare recommendations to Executive to further support families with needs for adapted properties within the District.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable as this report was for information only.

EX110-20/21 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE

This item had been withdrawn.

KEY DECISIONS

EX111-20/21 INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE

Executive considered a report of Portfolio Holder – Housing which set out an offer of an extension of contract from Derbyshire County Council to provide an Independent Living Services (known as the Care Line Service) to older people, and recommended that this offer should be accepted.

The report set out that the current contract was due to expire in October 2021 however, Derbyshire County Council had offered the Council a contract extension, for an additional five months, until March 2022.

Moved by Councillor Steve Fritchley and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor
RESOLVED that -

- 1) the Council accept the offer of a 5 month contract extension to continue to provide an Independent Living Service to older people within the District

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- 2) officers prepare for future tender opportunities to provide similar services within the District.

(Director of Environment and Enforcement)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The service was well regarded by residents and the Council were a trusted provider. Accepting the offer of a contract extension was a positive outcome for customers and for the Council.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not to accept the contract extension. This was rejected as it would have a detrimental impact on vulnerable customers.

The meeting concluded at 10:38 hours.