

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday 4th April 2022 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Steve Fritchley in the Chair

Councillors Mary Dooley, Clive Moesby, Duncan McGregor, Sandra Peake, Liz Smyth and Deborah Watson.

Officers:- Grant Galloway (Executive Director of Strategy and Development, Karen Hanson (Executive Director of Resources), Pam Brown (Assistant Director Leader's Executive, Partnerships and Communications), Jim Fieldsend (Interim Monitoring Officer), Joanne Wilson (Scrutiny and Elections Officer) (for Minute No EX103-21/22 only), Vicky Dawson (Head of Housing and Enforcement), Caroline Dagash (Senior Economic Development Officer) and Alison Bluff (Governance Officer).

EX98-21/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor David Downes.

EX99-21/22 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

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

EX100-21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

EX101-21/22 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake
RESOLVED that the Minutes of an Executive meeting held on 7th March 2022 be approved as a correct record.

MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY

EX102-21/22 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S POLICY ON FIREWORKS

Executive considered a report presented by the Scrutiny and Elections Officer, from the Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee, in relation to their review of the Council's policy on fireworks.

The review was originally agreed by the previous Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee as part of their 2020-21 work programme. Following the change in scrutiny structure for 2021-22, the Members of the new Climate Change &

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Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to carry this work forward with a view to clarifying the Council's stance and addressing residents' concerns previously identified.

The aim of the review, objectives agreed and key issues identified for investigation, were detailed in the report.

The key findings from the review were:

- That there was limited additional impact the Council could have at a local level due to current legislation.
- To ensure service delivery remained efficient and effective across the board, Members advice was that the Council adopted the four recommendations in section 2 of the attached review report, and as set out below, as this would allow officers in the joint Environmental Health Service to take a proportionate and appropriate approach to enforcement and advice/guidance.

1 - That BDC adopt a Firework & Bonfire Event Voluntary Registration Scheme, to align our approach with neighbouring areas and provide consistency of approach to Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service.

2 - That provision of advice and guidance on the BDC website be amended to be more accessible within the existing page.

3 - That BDC writes a follow-up letter to the Government further lobbying for change to legislation.

4 - That the Enforcement Team investigates the possibility of operating under a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme in relation to firework misuse, enabling enforcement powers similar to the Police.

Councillor Sandra Peake queried if it could be added to the recommendations that the sale of fireworks after bonfire night be banned in the District. The Scrutiny and Elections Officer noted that Derbyshire County Council looked into the restrictions on the sale of fireworks and this could not be done at a District level.

The Executive Director of Resources commented that Derbyshire Police currently do not have an accreditation scheme in place. However, a meeting had recently taken place with an Assistant Chief Constable where it had been agreed that the Council could potentially be part of a pilot scheme to agree some additional powers. The Executive Director of Resources suggested that a proposal regarding this be put forward to a future meeting of Executive for consideration.

In response to a query by Councillor Clive Moesby, the Scrutiny and Elections Officer confirmed that Scrutiny would carry out monitoring and consider an update report at the 6 month period and at the end of the 12 month period – these reports could also be presented to Executive.

Moved by Councillor Deborah Watson and seconded by Councillor Mary Dooley

RESOLVED that (1) the recommendations of the review outlined in section 2 of the attached report be endorsed,

(2) monitoring by Scrutiny Committee takes place over a twelve month period via

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the PERFORM system with an update report presented to Committee and Executive at the 6 month period and at the end of the 12 month monitoring period.

(Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

Reasons for Recommendation:

The Scrutiny Committee have put together four recommendations which will hopefully assist the Council in improving regulation of local firework displays and enforcement against misuse of fireworks.

Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection:

While the number of contacts over recent years has been limited, Members felt that further action could be taken to enhance the approach taken by the Council. This should enable a more streamlined service for the joint team. As such a 'do nothing' option was discounted.

Executive could choose not to endorse the recommendations of the review, where they feel the course of action recommended is beyond the delivery capacity of the Authority.

The Scrutiny and Elections Officer left the meeting at this point.

BUDGET & POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

NON KEY DECISIONS

EX103-21/22 SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

Executive considered a report, presented by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, which provided an update to Members on the contents of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund pre-launch guidance. Appendix 1 to the report set out the process to engage with internal departments and local partners to draft and formulate an Investment Plan for consideration and agreement at a future meeting.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was a new funding initiative which was part of the UK Government's levelling up agenda. It would provide £2.6 billion of new capital and revenue funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition

Based on the pre-launch guidance in Appendix 2 to the report, Members were asked to endorse the proposal for engaging partners and developing a draft investment plan which aligned to both the corporate priorities and those of the UKSPF, so that a draft of the Investment Plan could be brought back to a future meeting for agreement before being submitted to Government for approval.

Moved by Councillor Liz Smyth and seconded by Councillor Mary Dooley

RESOLVED that (1) the proposal for the formulation of a draft Investment Plan engaging with partners to develop initiatives, all of which align to the corporate priorities as set out in the report, be endorsed,

(2) a draft of the Investment Plan be presented to a future meeting of Executive for approval before its submission to the UK Government.

(Business Growth Manager)

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Reasons for Recommendation:

The UKSPF will be allocated to all district and unitary authorities across England with the allocation being via a funding formula rather than a competition.

Based on the pre-launch guidance in Appendix 2, Members are asked to endorse the proposal for engaging partners and developing a draft investment plan which aligns to both the corporate priorities and those of the UKSPF, so that a draft of the Investment Plan can be brought back to a future meeting for agreement before being submitted to Government for approval.

Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection:

There is no alternative to this proposal as the UKSPF requires an Investment Plan to be submitted in order to unlock the District's funding allocation.

KEY DECISIONS

EX104-21/22 INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ALARM SERVICE

Executive considered a report which provided information of an offer to extend two contracts from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) in relation to the Independent Living Service Contract, and the Community Alarm and Telecare Contract, which were both delivered by this Council through the Care Line Service.

The Council was offered an Inter-Authority Agreement to deliver the DCC funded part of the Independent Living Service Contract and the Community Alarm and Telecare Contract services in 2019. The initial contract was for a period of 2 years with a subsequent extension until March 2022.

DCC had served an extension of contract notification, offering the Council a contract extension of both contracts until March 2023, i.e. an extension of 12 months.

The combined contracts would result in an income of £382,000 to the Council to continue to provide the services and assist with the analogue to digital switchover in 2024.

The Head of Housing and Enforcement advised the meeting that the Community Alarm and Telecare Contract would be promoted for anyone who required the service with no age limitation in place.

Members welcomed the report.

Moved by Councillor Sandra Peake and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor

RESOLVED that (1) the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide an Independent Living Service to people within the District be accepted,

(2) the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide a Community Alarm and Telecare Service to people within the District be accepted.

(Head of Housing and Enforcement)

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Reasons for Recommendation:

Both services are well regarded by residents and Bolsover District Council are a trusted provider.

Accepting the offer of a contract extension for both contracts is a positive outcome for customers and for the Council.

The Council continues to extend the service and attract more customers, the majority who self-fund. This is part of a strategy to ensure that the Council are not dependent on DCC funding to operate the service but would be self-sufficient if we were not successful in winning future tenders.

In order to ensure the Council is not reliant on any further DCC funding, the service continues to be extended, improved and promoted for paying customers.

The offer of a contract extension provides certainty until March 2023 and should be accepted.

Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection:

Not to accept the contract extensions. Rejected as this would have a detrimental impact on vulnerable customers.

The meeting concluded at 1020 hours.