

Minutes of a meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Tuesday, 11 September 2018 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

G A Porter (Leader)
C N Worth (Deputy Leader)
M G Chandler (Deputy Leader)

T A Carter
A Casson

P E Coupland
R Gambba-Jones

C N Johnson

The Executive Director Place, the Executive Director Strategy and Governance (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151), the Deputy S151 Officer, the Executive Manager People and Public Protection, the Executive Manager Growth and Regeneration, the Inward Investment Manager, the Corporate Improvement and Performance Manager and the Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors C J Lawton, G J Taylor and B Alcock (Chairman, Performance Monitoring Panel), Citizens Advice South Lincs and the Chief Executive.

In Attendance: Councillor G R Aley (Chairman, Governance and Audit Committee) and Councillor A M Newton (Independent Group Leader),

24. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 10 July 2018 were signed by the Leader as a correct record.

The Cabinet also received the minutes of the meeting of the Priory Road Community Hub Project Sub-Committee held on 25 July 2018.

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest.

26. QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC UNDER THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (STANDING ORDERS).

No questions were raised under the Council's Constitution (Standing Orders).

Action By

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27. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO CALL-IN.

There were no matters subject to call-in.

28. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING PANELS

There were no matters arising from the Policy Development and Performance Monitoring Panels.

29. THE IMPACT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S 2018 LEP REVIEW ON THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH HOLLAND

Consideration was given to the report of the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Commercialisation which considered the options available to the authority in respect of Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) membership, in response to the government's recently published review of LEPs.

As a Lincolnshire-based local authority, South Holland District Council was a member of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) since it was formed in 2010. Furthermore, in 2017 the Authority became a paying 'associate' member of the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (GCGP LEP), a decision taken on the basis of the close alignment between the economy in South Holland and the wider economic geography that surrounded Peterborough. However, following a 2018 Review of Local Enterprise Partnerships, South Holland was required to give consideration to the issue of 'overlapping geographies' as the government was proposing that local authorities would no longer be able to belong to more than one Local Enterprise Partnership and/or Combined Authority.

DECISION:

- a) That in response to the government's review of Local Enterprise Partnerships, the impacts of which were set out within the report, South Holland District Council reaffirms and retains its continued membership of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership;
- b) That the Authority's support for recommendation (a) above be subject to the conditions set out within the Options section of the report; and
- c) That as a consequence of recommendation (a) South Holland District Council relinquishes its 'associate membership' of the

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Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Mayoral Authority, albeit with a view to ensure continued active partnership working with authorities and institutions in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, as a means of supporting the continued growth of the economy in South Holland.

(Other options considered:

- *That South Holland District Council pursues continued 'associate membership' of the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority, with a view to relinquishing membership of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership.*

Reasons for decision:

- *South Holland's 'associate membership' of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority did not afford the authority the same level of influence as currently afforded through the authority's membership of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership;*
- *'Associate membership' did not provide the authority with the same level of access to UK government and European funding that the authority currently had through membership of the GLLEP;*
- *Future LEP membership through the GLLEP would provide continued ability for South Holland businesses to access key and pertinent business and skills support provided through and commissioned by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Mayoral Authority;*
- *Through the Council's relationship with 'Opportunity Peterborough' in relation to inward investment, the authority would retain the ability to build important relationships with public and private sector partners within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, specifically in relation to areas relating to inward investment, economic development and infrastructure provision;*
- *Remaining with GLLEP would ensure that alignment would continue to exist between the LEP and the two tiers of local government that covered the South Holland area.)*

30. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME - 2019/20 (PRE-CONSULTATION)

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151), which updated the Cabinet on the performance of the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme, and sought approval to consult on proposals for 2019/20.

For each financial year, the billing authority was required to consider whether to revise its scheme, or replace it with another scheme. It was the intention to carry out a more fundamental review of the Council Tax Support scheme for 2019/20, taking into

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account the impacts of Universal Credit.

The recommended options for consultation were:

- Retain the current scheme and introduce a new class for Care Leavers aged 18-21 years;
- The option would see the current scheme retained for 2019/20, uprated in line with DWP information, and would provide a new class for up to 100% discount for care leavers aged 18-21 years.

DECISION:

That consultation on the following be approved:

- a) Continuation of the current Council Tax Support scheme, and uprating in line with DWP's annual update of allowances and premiums for housing benefit for 2018/19; and
- b) The introduction of a new class for Care Leavers aged 18-21 years.

(Other options considered:

- *No change.*

Reasons for decision:

- *To provide continuity for customers at a time when they might be experiencing change through the introduction of Universal Credit. The option would also seek views on the proposal to introduce a new class for Care Leavers into the main Council Tax Support scheme).*

31. AMENDMENT TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the report of the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection, which sought the approval and release of capital and revenue funding and consequent amendment of the capital programme.

The current Public Protection back-office software, that supported the environmental health and licensing functions, was approaching end of contract, and it was necessary to procure replacement software. The procurement would be subject to a full tender process and it was anticipated that this would open up business to the wider market and produce a range of software options that could be considered on their merits. The report provided detail on the release of both capital and revenue funding from reserves to deliver the project.

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DECISION:

- a) That it be recommended to Council that funding totalling £178,000 be approved and released from reserves, and that the 2018/19 capital programme be revised accordingly;

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- b) That the recommendation of Cabinet to approve and release funding from reserves, and that the capital programme be revised accordingly, be approved.

(Other options considered:

- *To do nothing, and let the existing contracts run out.*

Reasons for decision:

- *To ensure that a new robust and modern software system is in place for the environmental health and licensing functions, to ensure that these functions can operate efficiently and reliably after the expiry of the existing contracts, making best use of new technologies.)*

32. Q1 FINANCE REPORT 2018-19

Consideration was given to the report of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151) which provided information on Quarter 1 (to 30 June 2018) and forecast full year financial position of the Council. Detailed information was provided in Appendix A to the report.

It was noted that an additional recommendation was included within the body of the report at 5.6.3, but was not included in the report's recommendations. This was to go forward for recommendation to Council.

DECISION:

- a) That the report and Appendix A be noted;
- b) That the revised General Fund and HRA Capital Programmes be approved, and recommended to Council;
- c) That the contributions to and use of reserves be agreed in line with paragraph 5.4 and Appendix A, Tables 3 and 4 of the report;

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- d) That the revised General Fund and HRA Capital Programmes be approved.

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- e) That approval be given to move £300,000 from the affordable housing budget for 2020/21 into 2019/20.

(Other options considered:

- *To note the report and not approve the recommendations detailed in Appendix A;*
- *To do nothing.*

Reasons for decision:

- *To provide members with information on the Council's overall financial performance to date in 2018-19, to recommend an adjusted capital programme and to provide an updated financial position on reserves for 2018-19).*

33. QUARTER 1 2018-19 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW REPORT

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Director, Strategy and Governance which provided an update on Council performance for the period 1 April 2018 to 30 June 2018.

DECISION:

That the content of the report be noted.

(Other options considered:

- *To do nothing;*

Reasons for decision:

- *No recommendations are made. The report is presented for consideration, in order to fulfil the Cabinet's remit).*

34. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE LEADER DECIDES ARE URGENT.

There were no urgent items.

(The meeting ended at 10.29 am)

(End of minutes)

These minutes are published on Tuesday 11 September 2018. In accordance with the Council's Constitution the DECISIONS detailed above will, unless otherwise stated, come into force and may then be implemented on Wednesday, 19 September 2018 (i.e. after the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication of these minutes), unless during that period a notice which is signed by either a Ward Representative (in relation to a matter in their ward) or two members of the Performance Monitoring Panel or any three members, and complies with the requirements of the Council's Constitution is served on the Executive Manager

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Governance requesting that the decision be called-in and the Executive Manager Governance approves the request for call-in. Where a decision is called-in it will firstly be considered by the Performance Monitoring Panel on a date to be fixed.

Any FINAL DECISIONS and any URGENT DECISIONS take effect immediately.

Any RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL detailed above will be submitted for consideration to the meeting of the full Council on Wednesday 12 September 2018.