

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS – 13 APRIL 2021

1. Revised Housing Assistance Policy

The Cabinet:

- 1.1 Approved the revised Housing Assistance Policy at Appendix 1 of the Cabinet report.
- 1.2 Delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Housing and Health in consultation with the Head of Service to make minor amendments to the policy from time to time, and also make changes to the discretionary assistance set out in Appendix A of the policy within approved budgets.

2. Review of Committee Meetings

- 2.1 The Cabinet recommended that Council approve the following updates to the committee structure:
- 2.2 That Parish Forum is removed as a constituted committee and become informal meetings to aid information flow and training.
- 2.3 The District Board is removed as a constituted committee. Any statutory function carried out by this meeting is delegated to officers and relevant plans and decisions notified to Cabinet members and committees where appropriate.
- 2.4 That the structure for Overview & Scrutiny with the four existing committees be changed to a single Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.5 That the proposed Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider items earlier in the decision making process to aid policy development and review whether stated outcomes from decisions, strategies and policies have been achieved via effective use of member task groups.
- 2.6 That mandatory training is developed for all the scrutiny committee members and additional mandatory training for chair, vice chair and task group chair roles. Gender neutral terms will be used for all Committees from this point.
- 2.7 Full Council will appoint the Chair. The Vice-Chair will be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition and all task group Chairs are appointed by the Chair of O&S.
- 2.8 That an Independent Review Panel (IRP) is commissioned to assess the Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) payable to any roles affected by this review. Any findings are kept within existing budgets.
- 2.9 That an evaluation of the effectiveness of the new committee structure be undertaken after the next District Council Local Elections in 2023.

- 2.10 That the relevant sections of the Constitution be updated to reflect the new committee structure with clear but adaptable processes to support effective decision making.

3. Garrick Theatre

The Cabinet:

- 3.1 Approved that the relationship with the Lichfield Garrick Theatre Ltd revert to a Strategic Partnership Agreement.
- 3.2 Approved funding of the Strategic Partnership Agreement to the values outlined in paragraph 3.13 of the Cabinet report.
- 3.3 Approved the Strategic Partnership Agreement detail a smaller number of more measureable outcomes, to better assess the contribution to LDC's Strategic Objectives.
- 3.4 Delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks & Waste, in conjunction with the Head of Operational Services to enter into a Strategic Partnership Agreement with the Garrick Theatre Limited on the basis of the principles outlined in the Cabinet report.

(Councillor A Yeates declared an interest in this item and was not present during the discussion thereof).

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

4. Homes England Investment Partner and Registered Provider Status

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Housing & Health gave approval:
- To submit an application to apply to become a Homes England Investment Partner to enable the council to apply for Homes England grant funding for affordable homes.
 - To apply to become registered with the Regulator of Social Housing as a Registered Provider.

5. Small Business Grant Scheme – Ninth and Tenth Rounds

- 5.1 The Cabinet Member for Major Projects and Economic Development approved the allocation of funding for the Lichfield District Small Business Grant Scheme's ninth and tenth rounds to the project bids detailed in the Cabinet Member reports.

DOUG PULLEN
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL