

COUNCIL

12 DECEMBER 2023

PRESENT:

Councillors Anketell, Ashton, Ball, Banevicius, Bennion, Booker, Bragger, Checkland, Coe, Cox, Cross, Farrell, D Ennis, L Ennis, Evans, Galvin, Harvey-Coggins, Hawkins, Henshaw, Hill, Ho, Holland, Hughes, Leung, Marshall, Mears, Norman, Pullen, Ray, Robertson, Rushton, Salter, Silvester-Hall, A Smith, J Smith, Strachan, P Taylor, S Taylor, Trent, Vernon, Warfield, Whitehouse, M Wilcox, S Wilcox, Woodward and B Yeates

51 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

Apologies were received from Councillor Powell.

52 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

53 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2023 were approved as a correct record.

54 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Cross announced his resignation as Chair of Lichfield District Council referring to comments he had made and the publicity surrounding them.

55 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Cllr Cross asked for nominations for the Chair of the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Woodward, seconded by Councillor Galvin that Councillor Hughes be nominated for Chair of the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Wilcox, seconded by Councillor A Smith that Councillor Holland be nominated Chair of the Council.

Following a vote is was

RESOLVED: That Councillor Hughes be elected Chair of the Council.

Councillor Hughes made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members for her election as Chair.

COUNCILLOR HUGHES IN THE CHAIR

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON CABINET AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON THE 5TH DECEMBER 2023

The Leader of the Council submitted his report on Cabinet Decisions from the meeting held on 5 December 2023 and Cabinet Member Decisions.

Councillor Pullen reflected on the progress made since the May election. He commended councillors for their work and the effective collaboration across the different parties. Councillor Pullen emphasised that political differences did not impede progress on key programmes and stressed the importance of robust scrutiny while prioritising the residents' well-being.

Councillor Woodward discussed the evolving political landscape and underscored the significance of collaborative work in a council with no overall control. She appreciated the collegiality and focus on making decisions for the residents' benefit.

Councillor Trent sought clarification on the transfer of the HR function to LWMTS and sought reassurance that decisions regarding other functions would be subject to proper scrutiny. Councillor Robertson commented on collective agreements and amendments to employee contracts in the LATCo and asked what discussions had taken place.

In response, Councillor Pullen outlined improvements in HR functions, including enhanced employee benefits. Emphasis was placed on using the LATCo for service delivery to maximise value for residents and provide flexibility for staff terms. He reiterated the commitment to honouring staff terms during transitions to the LATCo, highlighting the need for competitiveness and adaptability in the current environment.

Councillor Ray questioned the live date for variable signage and Councillor Bragger requested more information on the decision-making process and data behind fees and charges regarding parking.

In response, Councillor Pullen stated that the variable signage would be operational in January 2024. He explained that fee levels were determined through benchmarking with other local authorities. He also emphasised the need to balance pricing with parking space availability to promote movement around the city.

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillor Norman submitted the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14 November and the Special meeting held on 30 November 2023.

Councillor Evans highlighted issues with the Burton and Derby Trust and urged Councillors Cox and Leung to closely monitor the care provided to residents, particularly considering the upcoming winter surge.

Councillor Norman assured that health matters would have priority in future meetings and efforts were underway to address the raised issues.

Councillor Leung confirmed ongoing efforts to address concerns over maternity services, as discussed previously. She encouraged members to reach out with any comments or queries.

Councillor Woodward raised concerns about the Community Safety Partnership, particularly regarding the visibility of funding and the absence of parish councils in the partnership. She emphasised the need for transparency in the funding assessment process and suggested that parish councils could contribute to enhancing community safety. Councillor Woodward requested that the committee consider reviewing the operations of the Community Safety Partnership to address these concerns and prioritise the issue for the benefit of the residents.

Councillor Henshaw inquired about the initial meeting of the transport task force, following up on his comments at the October Council meeting.

Responding to Councillor Woodward, Councillor Norman agreed to request a briefing note on community safety and consider it as a future scrutiny topic. He also assured Councillor Henshaw that the transport task force would be considered in due course.

Councillor Booker stressed the significance of robust decision-making through scrutiny and encouraged fellow members to continue challenging and scrutinising fund allocations. She raised concerns about padel tennis expenditure and neighbourhood safety. Councillor Norman acknowledged the concerns, highlighting the necessity for scrutiny in decision-making processes.

58 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT & MEMBER STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Robertson expressed concerns that audit findings from two years prior were only now being reviewed, posing significant concerns for council members and residents. Emphasis was placed on ensuring appropriate spending of public money with sufficient safeguards. He suggested writing to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities. With the aim to address public sector audit landscape challenges, preventing situations where public authorities could not obtain qualifications and reports from auditors, specifically external auditors.

Councillor Woodward supported Councillor Robertson's concerns, citing delays and confusion caused by central government on local authorities. She proposed engaging with local Members of Parliament representing the district to ensure both MPs were aware of challenges faced by local councils. Councillor Ho confirmed communication with the district's MP, Michael Fabricant, to discuss the situation. Furthermore, he agreed to contact Sarah Edwards, the recently elected Member of Parliament for Tamworth.

Councillor Trent pointed out a typographical error in the resolutions, referring to "Counter Fraud Update" instead of "Risk Management."

It was proposed by Councillor Ho that the Minutes be approved and adopted. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Whitehouse and it was

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Audit and Member Standards held on 28 November 2023 be approved and adopted.

59 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Evans noted that site names were not included in the planning applications listed in the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on October 30th. Councillor Marshall advised that this would be rectified.

Councillor Booker commended the Planning Committee for their decision regarding planning application 18/00840/OUTME (Land North of Browns Lane, Tamworth, Staffordshire) and called for further discussions regarding the area bordering Tamworth. She encouraged those interested in the matter to engage in discussions outside the meeting.

Councillor Pullen praised the National Memorial Arboretum for extending the memorial and those officers involved.

It was proposed by Councillor Marshall that the Minutes be approved and adopted. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Checkland and it was

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committee held on 30 October, 27 November and 6 December 2023 be approved and adopted.

60 MINUTES OF THE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Robertson inquired about updates from the Living Wage Foundation accreditation and the progress on the disability pay gap report, referencing a prior discussion on the matter.

Councillor Banevicius requested that committee members be informed and consulted on any changes to meeting dates due to their pre-existing commitments.

It was proposed by Councillor S Wilcox that the Minutes be approved and adopted. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Hill and it was

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Employment Committee held on 23 November 2023 be approved and adopted.

61 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

Councillor Woodward proposed amendments to committee memberships. These amendments were as follows:

- Councillor S Taylor be replaced with Councillor Woodward on the Audit Committee
- Councillor Hughes be replaced with Councillor S Taylor on the Member Standards Committee.
- Councillor Hughes be replaced with Councillor Evans on the Disciplinary Committee

The proposals were seconded by Councillor Cox and it was

RESOLVED: That the revised appointments to committees, including amendments be approved.

62 INTERIM POLICY NR3: BIODIVERSITY, PROTECTED SPECIES AND THEIR HABITATS

This item was withdrawn.

Councillor Wilcox addressed the reasons for withdrawing the paper from Cabinet and Full Council. He stated that the government had released draft secondary legislation on biodiversity net gain and noted the need to analyse this new information before finalising the policy in early 2024. He urged rural representation on the summit working group being created to focus on climate change and ecology.

Councillor Woodward commended Councillor Wilcox for his climate change efforts. She highlighted inadequate government funding for local authorities in addressing issues such as climate change, biodiversity, and food waste. She asked for these issues to be raised to the district's local MPs.

63 A CINEMA FOR LICHFIELD DISTRICT

Councillor A Smith presented a report to the Council that provided an update on the progress made on the creation of a new joint venture partnership, a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), with Evolve Estates, through which a new cinema and associated food and beverage units would be developed in the former Debenhams unit in the Three Spires shopping centre.

It provided a final update for Council on the outcome of negotiations with Evolve Estates over the structure and detail of the LLP and proposed the introduction of a new clause, requested by Evolve Estates, to commit the council to 'buy-out' their shareholding in the LLP, two years after completion of the development.

Councillor Smith referred to the detailed process that had been followed to reach this stage and advised that the proposal aimed to enhance the district while also making a financial investment with potential returns. He stated that the Council had already gone through an extensive process of scrutiny.

Councillor Robertson raised concerns particularly regarding the buyout clause and the potential implications for future decisions. He requested that further discussions on these matters be saved for the confidential session to ensure thorough consideration.

Councillor Cox welcomed the proposal, highlighting the importance of delivering on promises and the benefits the cinema project could bring to the district. He supported the idea of addressing any outstanding queries in a private session.

Councillor Ray expressed initial concerns about the buyout clause but acknowledged the positive aspects of the project, such as the high interest from operators and the demand for a cinema in the community. He also suggested holding further discussions in private to address specific points raised by Councillor Robertson.

Councillor Ball mentioned previous debates in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and suggested that some concerns had not been adequately addressed in the report. He highlighted the need for clarity and alignment with the decisions made in the scrutiny process.

Councillor Strachan emphasised the need for a forward-looking approach and commitment to delivering on long-standing goals.

Councillor Robertson expressed the importance of safeguarding the Council's interests and maintaining flexibility in decision-making. He clarified his concerns regarding the buyout clause and the need for clear documentation to support future choices.

Councillor A Smith provided further clarification on the options outlined in the proposal, particularly regarding the buyout clause and the Council's control over shareholding. He advised that the concerns raised had been addressed in the updated report.

The Council agreed to continue the discussion in the confidential session to address specific concerns.

64 MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Ball submitted the following Motion on Notice:

This Council recognises the increase in homelessness both in the District and across the country, as well as the acute cost-of-living crisis facing people in Lichfield, Burntwood and surrounding areas. The Council further notes that rapidly increasing rents and mortgage rates since the 2022 autumn statement, coupled with a shortage of genuinely affordable housing at

social rents locally, have made the financial pressure facing residents of our District much worse. This Council therefore resolves:

1. To follow up the Leader signing the District Councils' Network letter to the Chancellor, asking him to review the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) and the Chancellor's decision to unfreeze this in the Autumn statement, by writing to our local MPs, urging them to press the Chancellor to end the freeze in Local Housing Allowance (LHA) immediately, as he has done with the reduction in National Insurance rates. Shelter and many other housing bodies have called for this to ensure that the level of LHA allows everyone in Lichfield District depending on this to secure a roof over their heads over the coming winter months.

2. As the current model for assessing financial viability of housing developments and the level of "affordable housing" on sites has not consistently delivered to our aspirations of 40% "affordable housing", due to there being a ceiling on house value estimates but not on cost estimates, to require the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Local Plan, to review this model and the evidence of its effectiveness and to try to find ways to increase levels of "affordable housing" during the period of the current Local Plan and ensure that developments meet the needs of local people. This review should be carried out, fully involving a wide range of Councillors and evaluating the evidence bases used within the model, with the aim of delivering much nearer to 40% "affordable housing" on new housing sites and certainly no less than 20% and a significant part of that at social rents. Also, to commit to, as part of the development of the new Lichfield District Local Plan, reviewing the approach to securing "affordable housing", based upon sound evidence.

3. To require the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Local Plan to work with a cross section of all Councillors and Officers, liaising closely with local Housing Associations and whatever other outside bodies can offer support on this to look at ways of introducing the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Living Rent model (rents based on around a third of local household incomes) for all rented housing across the District provided by social landlords/registered housing providers.

Councillors expressed their support for the motion, highlighting the importance of taking action to ensure affordable housing for all residents. They discussed the challenges faced by residents, such as high rental prices and homelessness. The councillors emphasised the need to work with housing associations, non-profit organisations, and charities to address housing issues effectively.

There was a consensus among the councillors that addressing affordable housing was a priority for the Council. They agreed to work together to develop practical solutions and strategies to improve housing affordability in the district. Following a vote:

The Motion was approved.

65 QUESTIONS

Questions under Procedure Rule 11.2 for Council

Q1. Question from Councillor Rushton to the Cabinet Member for Waste, Recycling, Ecology and Climate Change

"Can you please provide the Council a monthly breakdown of fly-tipping incidents reported to Lichfield District Council over the last 24 months, accompanied by a number of how many of these incidents resulted in Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) being issued?"

Response from the Cabinet Member for Waste, Recycling, Ecology and Climate Change

“A breakdown of the requested data is included at appendix 1. Fly tipping offences are notoriously difficult to investigate and to identify a suspect. Unless there is evidence within the waste, or someone has witnessed the offence, there are usually no leads to go on.

Due to the severity of the offence our starting point for fly tipping offences is prosecution. Therefore, a fixed penalty notice is only issued for minor offences with limited aggravating factors and after careful consideration of the facts. Data relating to prosecutions is therefore also included.

Sometimes officers are unable to identify a suspect for the fly tipping offence but can evidence that the waste was generated by a particular business or household. In those circumstances action can be taken against them, by prosecution or fixed penalty, and these are called waste duty of care offences. Data relating to those offences is also included.

Officers are keen to use novel tactics to reduce fly tipping offences and to identify suspects. On 11 Dec 23, some of our environmental health officers deployed to Warwickshire in order to seize a vehicle that they believe to have been used in the commission of offences in Lichfield District. Without warning they arrived at the suspects place of work, with a recovery vehicle and police support, and seized the vehicle to prevent further offending whilst the offences are investigated.

Academic research* has demonstrated that the fear of being caught, and the fear of the subsequent penalty, is what deters the majority of people from fly tipping. Raising that deterrent by exploiting enforcement action through the media is key to our approach.

Officers will do a press release when enforcement action is taken, and Cllrs can help by sharing publicity to ensure that the action reaches the broadest audience.

* Webb et al (2006) Fly-tipping: Causes, Incentives, and Solutions: A Good Practice Guide for Local Authorities. London: DEFRA and Jill Dando Institute.”

Supplementary Question from Councillor Rushton

“It is disappointing to see the low rates of prosecution. Has the Cabinet Member come up with any new ideas on how to fix this crime? As rural districts like mine are very much affected by this.”

Response from the Cabinet Member for Waste, Recycling, Ecology & Climate Change

“If you have any ideas, I would be very happy to listen to them. It’s always very difficult to catch the perpetrators of fly tipping unless you can trace their dumped items back to them. I do know that there are some new initiatives that have been thought out by officers and that they are looking at other councils and what they do to decrease the amount of fly tipping. What I will say is that when we do catch people, we do prosecute them, and we make it known in the public domain that we do prosecute them. I think the more we make people aware of this, the more this will act as a deterrent. I welcome any ideas.”

Q2. Question from Councillor Ball to the Cabinet Member for Housing & Local Plan

“At the Council meeting on 17th October, I proposed an amendment to one of the recommendations, as follows: ‘and set out a clear timetable for a new Local Plan to be established as quickly as possible and well in advance of 2029.’ Councillor Farrell accepted

this amendment and the Council unanimously voted in favour of it. So, I would like to ask Councillor Farrell why he has as yet not provided the clear timetable for a new Local Plan.”

Response from the Cabinet Member for Housing & Local Plan

“Since the last Full Council meeting officers have undertaken the work to withdraw the Local Plan 2040 and have started work to inform a new local plan including consideration of the timetable. The Council is required to formally set out a timetable for its local plan through the publication of a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The updating of which is required to be considered by Cabinet which will be done in the new year alongside an update on the local plan. The timetable will demonstrate that the new local plan will be delivered before 2029 and will reflect the government’s proposed new timeframe which aims for local plans to be delivered in around 30 months. Where possible I would like to bring that 30-month target down and deliver a plan sooner.”

Supplementary Question from Councillor Ball

“When exactly will the Local Development Scheme be published next year? And when does the Cabinet member see the Local Plan being made?”

Response from the Cabinet Member for Housing & Local Plan

“In terms of the Local Development Scheme I can provide you with a rough timetable. Currently we are in the stage of reviewing the current local plan. I’m hoping between January and March 2024 we can do a call for sites which is almost a soft launch of the new local plan. Then towards the March end of 2024 we’ll be looking at the Local Development Scheme and the machinery of putting that into place. I’m then hoping that around summer 2024 we will have our new evidence base for our new local plan. There are some consultations that will happen between September and October 2024. Some further evidence based on the consultations and the ongoing evidence hopefully by the end of 2024 or early 2025. Then the preferred option consultation towards the end of 2025. I’m hoping October 2026 we can get to submission date which of course would be three years before this Council’s deadline of 2029. I’d like to keep you all informed as we go forward.”

Q3. Question from Councillor P Taylor to the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

“Further to the Council's promotion of Visit Lichfield's 'Have a Magical Christmas' campaign, I note with disappointment the lack of Burntwood businesses on the website. Of the many listings, it seems there significantly fewer than from Lichfield City. Can the cabinet member provide a breakdown of the number of businesses located in each District Council Ward that are listed on the website, and those that are involved with the 'Have a Magical Christmas Campaign'?”

Response from the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

“The Magical Christmas Campaign was promoted via LDC’s business databases which contain contact details for over 6,200 businesses across the District. Businesses were encouraged to either upload their events directly themselves to the Visit Lichfield website, or send through their information to the Communications Team. The Team are also proactively uploading events as they are made aware of them via other communications activities. We’d very much welcome Councillors from across the District sending through details of any further events so that we can promote as many independent traders and festive events in Lichfield District as possible.

A full list of events currently promoted via the Magical Christmas Campaign will be made available by the end of play Wednesday.”

Supplementary Question from P Taylor

“Unfortunately, the response and data does not actually answer my question. I asked about the businesses listed by ward, not the events. While I commend the investment in promoting the local economy anyone visiting the website cannot fail to see the imbalance between Lichfield City businesses and businesses from Burntwood and the villages. It may be that the name Visit Lichfield website does not encourage participation from businesses outside the city. Can I ask the Cabinet Member to provide the data requested of businesses listed by ward? Can I also ask the Cabinet Member whether they think this expense should be borne by Lichfield City Council if it is going to mostly list Lichfield City businesses or whether we should provide a second website called visit Burntwood and other websites for the other rural areas and villages?”

Response from the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

“In the response, you will notice that we emailed over 4,000 businesses, inviting them to participate. We offered assistance through our communications team to those organisations that were unable to upload their information directly to the Visit Lichfield website. Additionally, we included an appeal for those with local contacts to encourage these organisations to engage with 'A Magical Christmas' in future events.

Regarding the provision of physical data, it will be supplied to you. Although we have begun compiling the data, we decided to wait until we could ensure that it is easily accessible to everyone. Furthermore, we have initiated inquiries to meet with a specific Burntwood business and would like to extend an invitation to anyone who can provide additional contacts that may be worth exploring.”

Q4. Question from Councillor Bragger to the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

"I have been pleased to see occasions when staff stop and explain the rules to motorists entering the pedestrianisation zone however most of the time I walk in the City Centre I see motorists ignoring the rather confusing rules.

What are the Council's plans to further publicise the rules and location of alternative disabled parking?

Have all taxi firms been informed of the rules and how it applies to them?

Have those business with pavement licences now been told that they can continue using pavement furniture when disabled and delivery drivers have access to the city centre?”

Response from the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

“What are the Council's plans to further publicise the rules and location of alternative disabled parking?”

Engagement with all road users continues to take place - as of 23 November 2023 security personnel have been introduced at the Tamworth & Bird Street gateways into the pedestrianised zone from 09:00 to 17:00, Thursday to Sunday each week. Their brief is to allow entrance to road users that are permitted access whilst also engaging with all other drivers with a particular focus on ensuring Blue Badge holders are fully aware of the restrictions and directed to the alternative parking provisions, this will continue through to the New Year. Printed copies of maps are being made available to drivers in the city as well as quantities being issued to local care homes for when family members are visiting. An electronic PDF version of the parking map is also being made available to organisations to

share with their users if requested. The pedestrianisation and car parking web pages on LDC's website also has information for Blue Badge holders. The installation of the digital car parking signage will also be able to advise drivers in the city to Blue Badge spaces.

Have all taxi firms been informed of the rules and how it applies to them?

Meetings have taken place with representatives of taxi drivers, including a site visit to an originally requested alternative siting for the night time rank to be outside the old library. Due to the preferred start time being 6.30pm here, it is not possible to use this place due to the running of bus transport until 20.30. Consultation with taxi and private hire representatives is ongoing at a pace to establish an alternative location which ideally would not require taxis to drive through the city centre. Taxi and private hire vehicles are subject to the restrictions and times of operations listed during the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order.

Have those business with pavement licences now been told that they can continue using pavement furniture when disabled and delivery drivers have access to the city centre?

There are a number of premises placing street furniture outside in the pedestrianised zone and can continue to do so at all times. The aim of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order is to make the city even more vibrant, welcoming and attractive to visitors and shoppers, we are presently working with all stakeholders to achieve this.”

Supplementary Question from Bragger

“I welcome security personnel, but I would ask that more is done to publicise the rules, particularly some clearer signs and I do think it’s important that the disabled parking bays are labelled. I would add that not everyone with limited ability has a blue badge and I would ask that there is some publicity given to drop-off points that would help with pedestrianisation.”

Response from the Cabinet Member for High Streets & Visitor Economy

“This is an experimental trial that is continuing and is very much wanting feedback. Whilst we have a consultation due to open, in the meantime, I would invite any feedback and the pedestrianisation website. We aren’t just relying on that online medium; we are also handing out printed materials. But again, there is always an opportunity for residents to get in touch through the contact details on the website.”

66 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: “That as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, which would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972”

67 CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX FOR A CINEMA FOR LICHFIELD DISTRICT

Addressing questions raised Cllr Robertson the Chief Executive provided further detail on the potential income figures, including the reason for the difference with those discussed at overview and scrutiny committee, and clarified the build costs that had been included in the development appraisal.

Councillor Woodward inquired about legal advice in connection with the recommendations from the Aspinall Verdi report. The Chief Executive confirmed that additional clauses had been inserted for consideration by Evolve and legal advice had been sought.

Councillor Henshaw expressed concerns about district councils entering commercial contracts with private companies unless it was to provide essential services or infrastructure projects.

It was proposed by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Sylvester-Hall and

RESOLVED: (1) That Council agree to the inclusion of the new 'Buy Out' clause outlined in the report. The clause would involve the 'Buy Out' of Evolve Estates interest in the Joint Venture Limited Liability Partnership, two years after completion of the development.

(2) That Council approves an update to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS):

- i. To increase the budget in the Capital Programme by £3,999,000 to reflect the central scenario cost of the 'buy out' with funding initially based on the central scenario included in the financial implications section. The plan is for any borrowing need to be funded through internal borrowing.
- ii. To continue the approach that the MTFS is based on a neutral (no surplus or deficit or capital receipts are included) budget position until more informed financial projections are provided through the Business Plan. Any future changes following receipt of the Business Plan will be reported in line with the Council's budget monitoring and any budget approvals will be in line with the budget framework.

(3) That Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to be involved in the scrutiny of key elements of policy development including the Business Plan and the most appropriate ownership model. This will enable Members to fully understand the strategic, operational, and financial implications of the Council becoming the sole owner of the cinema development and the impact on the MTFS.

68 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillor Norman submitted the Minutes of the special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 November 2023.

(The Meeting closed at 8.27 pm)

CHAIR