

Minutes

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| Meeting name | Cabinet |
| Date | Wednesday, 5 June 2019 |
| Start time | 4.00 pm |
| Venue | Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. LE13 1GH |

Present:

Chair Councillor J. Orson (Chair)

Councillors L. Higgins (Vice-Chair) R. de Burle
A. Freer-Jones J. Illingworth
A. Pearson

Observers J. Douglas M. Glancy

Officers Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director for Corporate Services
Director for Law and Governance
Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services
Environmental Services Manager
Senior Democracy Officer
Democratic Services Officer (HA)
Democratic Services Officer (CR)

| Minute No. | Minute |
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| 1 | <p>Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Declarations of Interest Councillors Orson and Pearson each declared a personal interest in any items relating to Leicestershire County Council, due to their roles as County Councillors.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Matters referred from Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rules There were no items for consideration.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Corporate Delivery Plan Update and Performance Reporting for Quarter 4 (2018/19) Cllr Joe Orson, Leader of the Council introduced the report with the purpose being to update members of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the current state of performance against the defined performance reporting measures for the priority themes, within the Council’s Corporate Priorities for the fourth quarter of the financial year 2018/19; • of the position at the end of the Council year, regarding Members’ priorities, as set out in the Council’s Corporate Delivery Plan and the steps being taken to develop the Corporate Delivery Plan for the period 2019 to 2023; • of the Council’s current Corporate Risk Register <p>During discussion the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 sets out the Council’s performance against measures mapped to the Council's Corporate Priorities. Appendix 1 includes two years of data (eight quarters). • <u>Place Priorities</u> <p>The Council showed high/improving performance in a number of areas. However, there were also some areas which were not at the required level and needed improvement, such as Homelessness – number of households in temporary accommodation (applications where homelessness has been prevented (43). The Council was working on the availability of properties and was engaged in searching for suitable accommodation solutions. It was also noted that there was an opportunity for the Council to work with landlords and letting agents.</p> |

- Organisational Priorities

The Council showed high/improving performance in a number of areas. However, there were also some areas which were not at the required level and needed improvement, such as the Number of Ombudsman complaints upheld (1). The Council has acted upon this by implementing a Corporate Enforcement Policy, detailing the actions which the Council can take when dealing with complaints where enforcement action was an option;

Appendix 2 of the report (Projects Year End Position 2018/19) detailed the progress achieved for projects and activities at the end of 2018/19. Overall, of the forty-two corporate priorities, nine (21.5%) were blue status (completed); twenty-one (50%) were green status (on track and progressing well); nine (21.5%) were amber status (progressing but are a little behind schedule) and only three (7%) were red status (behind schedule).

A Member commented that improvements to Attendance at Physical Activity outreach programmes within the community (4,212 attendees) had been achieved despite less funding, which proved that a taking a different approach to these issues was more important than having more money to use on them. Concerning the Corporate Delivery Plan, it was important to look at the direction of arrows, as well as the status colours, as depending on which direction the arrows pointed, improvements even within red status items could be identified.

In relation to housing delivery. Two hundred and twenty-two new dwellings had been delivered in the last quarter and more improvement would derive through delivery of affordable housing.

Councillor Orson moved the recommendations and Councillor de Burle seconded. Members voted unanimously in favour.

DECISIONS (NON-KEY)

- (1) Progress against the Corporate Delivery Plan and quarter 4 performance be noted;
- (2) The steps being taken to develop the Council's new Corporate Strategy 2020 to 2024 be noted;
- (3) The contents of the Corporate Risk Register be noted.

Reasons:-

The performance information for the final quarter of 2018-19 in the Performance Dashboard and the current position with regard to delivery against the Council's priorities is used to help inform the Cabinet, and assist with regard to the formation of policy and oversight of the Council priorities.

One of the key areas for Cabinet, as part of its terms of reference, is to have awareness of the strategic risks that could impact on the Council and to review the risk management arrangements in place and the activities that are being undertaken to mitigate those risks.

5

Citizens' Advice Bureau Grant

Cllr Alison Freer Jones, the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Access and Engagement introduced the report with the purpose being to update members on the future options for Citizens Advice Leicestershire (CAL) and note that she would use her delegated authority to determine whether the options proposed represent a satisfactory use of the grant funding, in terms of value for money and if so, which (if any) is an acceptable option to the Council.

Cllr Freer Jones advised members that as part of its budget setting process, the Council had approved a reduction in grant to the Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB), now known as Citizens' Advice Leicestershire (CAL) of £17k per annum, the total reducing from £44k to £27k. she advised that CAL had identified two different options as to how they would operate within the grant allocated, which were still in the early stages of development

Cllr Freer Jones noted that as part of its budget setting, the Council had approved a reduction (of £17k) in community grant to CAL and confirmed there was a risk that the savings identified through the proposed grant reduction would be offset by the loss of rental income from CAL.

Councillor Freer-Jones moved the recommendation and Councillor Illingworth seconded. Members voted unanimously in favour.

DECISION (NON- KEY)

It be noted that the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Access and Engagement would exercise her delegated authority to determine whether either of the options proposed by Citizens Advice Leicestershire or any alternative emerging from the ongoing discussions, represent a satisfactory use of the grant funding in terms of value for money to enable implementation by 1 July 2019.

Reason:-

As part of the grant reduction, members wanted to understand how CAL would operate their service and whether how they delivered their service was satisfactory and value for money. Although the Portfolio Holder can exercise her delegation it is important that Cabinet note that it will be necessary for the portfolio holder to consider the options in time to implement the preferred option by 1st July 2019.

6

Public Spaces Protection Orders : Consultation

Cllr John Illingworth, the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Regulatory Services introduced the report with the purpose being to seek approval to commence formal consultation on the making of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), relating to

dogs and aspects of anti-social behaviour (following initial consultation with the Police) in accordance with the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act).

Cllr Illingworth advised that the report linked with the Council's Corporate Priorities, namely 'achieving a clean and attractive local environment and that the existing Dog Control Order had limitations and was being repealed in September. He advised that the draft PSPO had greater scope and more control over enforcement and prosecution. It would assist the Council's Enforcement Officer in dealing effectively with issues such as dog fouling.

During the discussion the following points were noted;

- A member stated that the fixed penalty notices for dog fouling had been a £75 statutory fine for a number of years and suggested raising these to £100. The Assistant Director for Planning and Regulatory Services advised that these would be considered when the PSPO was submitted for approval by Cabinet.
- A Member noted the active social media campaign on dog fouling in 2017. The Assistant Director for Planning and Regulatory Services advised that the Council now had a dedicated Enforcement Officer in post and were proposing a consultation process to enable such issues to be dealt with more effectively.
- A member raised a query about whether the PSPO would be Borough wide. The Director for Law and Governance advised that the Council had the power to define the area included in any PSPO. Possible areas for inclusion were defined on the plans before Members. The Environmental Services Manager advised that there were exemptions which would not be covered in the PSPO, such as agricultural and private land..

Councillor Illingworth moved the recommendation and Councillor Orson seconded. Members voted unanimously in favour.

DECISION (NON-KEY)

Consultation on the draft Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) be undertaken between 1 July 2019 and 30 August 2019.

Reasons:-

The Council understand well how anti-social behaviour can blight the lives of people in its local communities. The Council recognises that it has a key role to play in helping make local areas safe places to live, visit and work and tackling anti-social behaviour continues to be a high priority for the Council and its partners. The Council has approved corporate priorities as part of its Corporate Delivery Plan 2018-2020. One of the corporate priorities is 'achieving a clean and attractive local environment'. It was identified within the Corporate Delivery Plan that one way of meeting this priority is to undertake additional environmental enforcement, so we

can more proactively tackle issues like litter, dog fouling and fly-tipping as we work to improve the quality and attractiveness of the Borough of Melton.

Another corporate priority is to 'work with our partners to address vulnerability and tackle the root causes of social problems, building safe, happy and healthy communities.'

The Council receives complaints about dog fouling on a regular basis. The introduction of a PSPO would be a proactive way of ensuring that we try and stop dog fouling and have the ability to take enforcement action against those persons who do not pick up after their dog/s.

The PSPO process will assist in supporting both of these priorities. The overall aim of introducing a PSPO is to:

- create a clearer, simpler system thereby making it easier for the public to understand,
- provide a more comprehensive and consistent approach to the control of dogs in the district,
- increase the penalties for those committing offences,
- balance the needs of dog owners and other members of the community.

A period of public consultation ensures the views of those affected are taken into account.

7

Trans-Midlands Trade Corridor (A46)

Cllr Leigh Higgins, the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Prosperity introduced the report with the purpose being to seek approval to enter into a Statement of Commitment and Collaboration with other local authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) within the Trans-Midlands Trade Corridor.

Cllr Higgins thanked officers, particularly the Chief Executive and the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services for the Strategic Growth Plan and for helping to 'put Melton on the map'. The Trans Midland Trade Corridor proposal was good news for Melton and this Council was the first to consider it.

Cllr Higgins proposed that the recommendation at 3.1 of the report be amended to reflect that he, as Portfolio Holder for Growth and Prosperity (in consultation with the Leader and the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services) be given delegated authority to amend any wording of the Statement of Commitment and Collaboration.

Cllr Higgins informed Members that the trade corridor would enable people to seek employment outside Melton, while encouraging tourism and custom to the Borough and advised that the Council always sought to work with partners and was 'outward looking'. Melton would be very much a part of seeking opportunities to support growth ambitions. He also highlighted that the Strategic Plan would include:-

- Vision and Objectives
- Sector focused analysis of opportunities impacts and outcomes
- Seeking land value capture opportunities
- Establishing and appraising a range of interventions
- Understanding the social value and environmental impacts and opportunities
- Future-ready opportunities
- Establishing public/private delivery pacts
- Developing the integrated investment and policy strategy

Cllr Higgins moved the recommendation and Councillor Orson seconded.
Members voted unanimously in favour.

DECISION (NON-KEY)

The Trans Midlands Trade Corridor Proposal be noted and the signing of the Statement of Commitment and Collaboration be confirmed. Any amendment to the wording of the Statement be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Prosperity, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services.

Reason:-

The opportunity for the Council to commit to working with partners, national agencies and Government to produce a prospectus that will be attractive to Government whilst meeting our own requirements within our Strategic Growth Plan.

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| 8 | <p>Urgent Business</p> <p>A Member raised lone working, in respect of Councillors visiting people at their homes. They highlighted that this presented a risk to personal safety and asked that work be done to ensure councillors safety, as the Council owed a duty of care to its members.</p> |
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The meeting closed at: 4.47 pm

Chair