



Report of the Leader on Decisions taken by Executive Members and the Joint Strategic Committee since the last meeting of Council

A Decisions Taken by Individual Executive Members

Listed below is a summary of decisions taken by the individual Executive Members since the despatch of the agenda for the last ordinary Council Meeting . Full details can be found on the Executive Members and Portfolios, Reports and Decisions webpage.

www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/committee/agendas-minutes.htm

Leader

LDR/001/18-19 Representing the Council in the Community - appointments to outside organisations

Executive Member for Regeneration

REG/002/18-19 Adur Local Development Scheme 2018-2020

JAW/006/18-19 Capital Improvement Works (Fire Management) to Worthing Pier

Executive Member for Resources

RES/004/18-19 Irrecoverable Debts

JAW/002/18-19 2018/19 Local Schemes for Business Rates Discretionary Relief

JAW/004/18-19 Applications for Compulsory Redundancies - Business Support - Service Redesign

JAW/005/18-19 Efficiency of Service

Executive Member for Customer Services

JAW/007/18-19 Acquisition of land in West Worthing

Executive Member for the Environment

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Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

HAW/003/18-19 Adur Community Grants - Allocation of Funds for 2018/19

B. Decisions Taken by the Joint Strategic Committee on 11 September 2018

Full details can be

found: <https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/meetings-and-decisions/committees/joint/strategic/>

Items relating to Worthing Borough Council are not reproduced on this agenda

JSC/032/18-19 1st Capital Investment Programme and Projects Monitoring 2018/19

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 6.

The report updated the Committee on the progress made with the 2018/19 Capital Investment Programmes for Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council. The programmes included schemes which supported the delivery of services by the Joint Services Committee.

The Committee were advised that the Adur Homes Programme was making good progress, as outlined on page 26 of the report and the progress of Major Sites had been well received too.

The Digital Programme had been making strong progress overall with the inhouse team delivering at pace and a dedicated report would be brought to committee in November, highlighting a range of work that was underway. It was noted that two external software suppliers, who were delayed in their delivery, were being very carefully contract managed and payments were being withheld.

Planned work at the town hall to address asbestos removal, was proposed to be extended in scope to include fire safety improvements, including compartmentation work and new insulation.

The Committee was also asked to note the requests for the use of funds to improve health & safety equipment for cemeteries and the proposed upgrade of seafront lighting to LEDs.

Members were also advised of an amendment to the wording of recommendation 2.1 (b) v).

A Member sought some background information regarding an external funding bid to the Lawn Tennis Association for the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Field Place. Officers agreed to provide a written response to the question.

Decision,

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

(a) with respect to the Capital Investment Programme of Adur District Council

- i) noted the reprofiling and likely phasing of the Adur District Council capital schemes as advised in paragraphs 7.2.1 and Appendix 3.
- ii) approved the purchase of health and safety equipment for the Council's cemeteries funded from contingency and underspends in the 2018/19 Capital Investment Programme, and the amendment to the 2018/19 Capital Investment Programme to include this scheme as detailed in paragraph 7.1.1 i).
- iii) approved the virement from the Digital Strategy Budget to the Corporate Hardware Budget to create a budget for the purchase of ad hoc I.T. equipment as detailed in paragraph 7.1.1 ii).
- iv) approved the Adur Homes purchase of health and safety equipment and ICT equipment, and the inclusion of this equipment in the Adur Homes Capital Investment Programme as advised in paragraph 7.2.2 i).
- v) approved the virement of £30,000 from the 2018/19 Capital Investment Programme Contingency Budget to the Adur Memorial Recreation Ground Play Area Improvements Budget to fund land contamination issues prior to the play area improvements as advised in paragraph 7.2.2 ii).

JSC/033/18-19 Annual Treasury Management Report 2017-18 Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 7.

The report asked Members to note the Treasury Management performance for Adur and Worthing Councils for 2017/18 as required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.

As several of the main British banks had split their business into "ring-fenced" and "non ring-fenced" entities, the report asked Members to approve the amendment to

the Councils' specified investments counterparties lists to include only the "ring-fenced" banks for 2018-19 onwards.

Decision,

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

- noted the contents of the report;
- approved the amendment to the Councils' specified investments counterparties lists to include only the "ring-fenced" entities of those banks which have divided their operations.

JSC/034/18-19 Local Government Funding in 2019/20 - Consultation Response

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 8.

The Committee was informed that the Government released a technical consultation on the 24 July 2018 which set out the Government preferred approach on four key issues for the 2019/20 Local Government Finance Settlement:

- i) Multi-year settlement offer;
- ii) New Homes Bonus;
- iii) Council tax referendum principles; and
- iv) Negative Revenue Support Grant 1.2

A proposed response to the consultation document, which was due by the 18 September 2018, was attached to the report as Appendix 1.

In parallel to the consultation, the Government had also announced a further round of business rate pilots for 2019-20. The terms offered for 2019-20 were not as good as those available in 2018-19: pilots would only retain 75% rather than the 100% retained in previous years and there would be no "no detriment" support. Current devolution areas, and possibly London, would continue on their existing terms, which were more favourable than those offered to other English authorities.

Councils wishing to be considered for pilot status in 2019/20 had to submit their bid to DCLG by 25 September 2018. It was likely that there would be a competitive process and not all bids would be successful. Members were reminded that last years bid was unsuccessful. DCLG intended to announce the outcome of the bidding process in December 2018.

A successful bid should generate significant additional revenue of £20m for the West Sussex authorities, and help local government shape the future roll out of fully localised business rates. It was proposed that the Councils participate in a County wide bid to be a pilot area for the business rate retention scheme. The Committee

were advised that the timescales for submitting the bid were tight, deadline of the 25 September, therefore a delegation was requested to enable the Councils to participate in the pilot.

Resolved,

That the Joint Strategic Committee

- i) approved the draft consultation response detailed in appendix 1 of the report;
- ii) approved that the Chief Financial Officer can sign the business rate pilot bid on behalf of Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council in consultation with the Leaders of the Councils.

JSC/035/18-19 Going Local - a prescription of a different kind

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 9.

The report updated Members on the progress of Going Local, a social prescribing service which had been live in Adur and Worthing since November 2016. The 1,000th person would soon be referred into the service. The project was a key deliverable in Platforms for our Places as Going Local promoted good physical and mental health of our communities, specifically addressing the wider determinants of health in our localities.

Plans to extend the project, were also covered in the report.

Members acknowledged the huge positive impacts the Going Local Project was making to local residents.

Resolved,

That the Joint Strategic Committee noted and celebrated the impact of Going Local.

JSC/036/18-19 'Breathing Better' - working together to improve air quality across West Sussex

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 10.

The report provided the Committee with the background and details regarding the county wide joint Air Quality Plan 'Breathing Better'.

The report sought approval from the Committee to formally work together with West Sussex County Council and all Districts and Boroughs across West Sussex, to deliver the ambitions of the plan, with the aims of improving air quality and meeting the Councils objectives as laid out in local plans and our strategic direction of travel - Platforms for our Places.

During discussion of the item, Members acknowledged the importance of the issue and that a joined up approach was required.

Resolved,

That the Joint Strategic Committee

- i) noted the contents of the report whilst agreeing to work in partnership to deliver the 'Breathing Better' West Sussex Air Quality Plan;
- ii) approved the joint working with West Sussex County Council and all Districts and Boroughs across West Sussex to achieve the ambitions of this plan.

JSC/038/18-19 Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Review of Consultations

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes as Item 12.

The Joint Strategic Committee (JSC) was asked to receive and note the findings and recommendations of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Working Group on Consultation by the Councils.

These recommendations followed the discussions of a Working Group set up by JOSC. A copy of the Working Group's report was attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

The Committee welcomed the report and thanked the Working Group for the recommendations.

Resolved,

That the Joint Strategic Committee:-

- i) noted the report, findings and recommendations from the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
- ii) agreed to receive a report in November 2018 on the issues raised by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee and consideration of the implications for each recommendation contained in the Scrutiny report

at Appendix 1 in order for the Executive to provide a formal response to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

JSC/039/18-19 Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy 2018-20

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 11.

The report provided the detail of the updated revised Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy (ROMS) 2018-20 for both Adur and Worthing Councils and sought approval of the strategy.

Resolved,

That the Joint Strategic Committee:-

- i) approved the revised/updated Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy 2018 - 2020 as set out at Appendix A and be adopted from 1 October 2018;
- ii) agreed that an annual summary of risks and opportunities be provided along with the strategy, following the recommendation from Joint Governance Committee.

C. Decisions Taken by the Joint Strategic Committee on 9 October 2018

Full details can be

found:<https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/meetings-and-decisions/committees/joint/strategic/committee.148193.en.html>

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JSC/044/18-19 Update on the delivery of a Sustainable Procurement Strategy

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 5.

The report outlined the progress made delivering the Councils' Sustainable Procurement Strategy since the introduction of the strategy a year ago, and looked forward at activities planned for the coming year.

The Committee noted that during 2017, the structure and operational focus of the Councils' procurement function underwent significant change. A team of three

permanent members of staff was in place and was managed by an experienced Procurement Manager, reporting to the Chief Financial Officer.

The emphasis of procurement activity had shifted away from a transactional and compliance based approach into a much more strategic and commercially minded focus. The procurement team were working closely with departments towards the adoption of more holistic and a longer term view for the contractual arrangements put in place.

At the heart of these changes was the adoption of the new Sustainable Procurement Strategy last year, to deliver the aspirations in Platforms for our Places, in particular, those that can deliver sustainability and community benefits through the Councils procurement activities.

During this period of change the Procurement team had continued to support and advise departments on their procurement requirements and delivered approximately £200,000 worth of savings during 2017/18.

With the departure of the current Procurement Manager, Officers had considered how to best deliver the service for the future to ensure that the strategic direction was maintained and the councils continued to get best value from its procurement activity. With this in mind, it was proposed that the team would work closely with the Orbis partnership (East Sussex county Council, Surrey County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council), over the next two years, to deliver the Procurement Service.

The Committee was informed that during the coming year, the Procurement Team, with support from colleagues in the Orbis Partnership, would deliver the Year 2 Action Plan of the Sustainable Procurement Strategy, which would include:

- adoption of the Responsible Procurement Charter;
- undertake a commercial skills assessment of staff with procurement or contract management responsibilities and provide appropriate training;
- refining the category management structure with expenditure data from FY17/18 expenditure and the republished Contracts Register;
- support the delivery of key procurement projects, including ones to support emergency housing accommodation, the procurement of an operator for the Worthing Theatres and Museum, regeneration projects, and a number of property maintenance contracts.

A Member asked how many businesses complied with the Responsible Procurement Charter. Officers advised suppliers with contracts over £250k would be expected to sign up and comply with this. In time, all suppliers would be encouraged to sign up.

The Committee challenged how quickly the Councils could advance compliance with the charter by suppliers of smaller contracts. Officers advised that the Councils could look at accelerating the process and would report back on progress.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

- i) approved the Responsible Procurement Charter set out in Appendix B;
- ii) approved the direction of travel in developing a strategic procurement function and delivery of initiatives outlined in this report;
- iii) approved that quarterly update reports were provided to both Executive Members for Resources and a full progress report was provided to the Joint Strategic Committee in 12 months time.

JSC/045/18-19 Adur District Council - Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2019-2022

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Communities, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 6.

The report outlined to the Committee, the Capital Investment Programme for three years combined - 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22. It contained information about the planned investment in the housing stock which was owned by Adur District Council and managed under the name of Adur Homes.

Approval was sought for the release of the budget in compliance with Financial Regulations.

The investment allocated in the Housing Revenue Account for 2019/20 was £5,200,000; for 2020/21 it was £5,500,000; and for 2021/22 it was £5,500,000.

A Member questioned how many properties required an installation under the Central Heating Installation Programme, the unit cost per installation and forthcoming programme of works. Offices agreed to provide a written response following the meeting.

Decision,

The Joint Strategic Committee approved the revised Housing Capital Investment Programme for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 and the release of these budgets for 2019/20 and 2020/21

D. Urgent Decisions Taken by the Executive

Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended.

The following is reported to Council:

Nil.

Councillor Neil Parkin
Leader of the Council

Local Government Act 1972
Background papers

Reports and Record of decisions of various are available on the Council's web site www.adur-worthing.gov.uk or as indicated in each of the paragraphs above. Some of the reports may contain exempt information and not fully published on the websites.