



**STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**

Tuesday, 25th August, 2020

The decisions summarised below were taken by the Executive at the above-mentioned meeting and, subject to the call-in procedure referred to in Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17 and to the Notes at the end of this document, shall have effect five working days after the meeting. Details of any recommendations to Council are also included for completeness.

Members of the Executive

Chairman:

Councillor Caroline Reeves (Leader of the Council and Lead Councillor for Housing and Development Control) \*

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Joss Bigmore ((Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Councillor for Service Delivery)) \*

Councillor Tim Anderson, (Lead Councillor for Resources) \*  
Councillor Jan Harwood, (Lead Councillor for Climate Change) \*  
Councillor Julia McShane, (Lead Councillor for Community) \*  
Councillor John Redpath, (Lead Councillor for Economy) \*  
Councillor John Rigg, (Lead Councillor for Regeneration) \*  
Councillor James Steel, (Lead Councillor for Environment) \*

\*Present

Councillors Chris Blow, Angela Goodwin, Angela Gunning, Gordon Jackson, Ramsey Nagaty, Deborah Seabrook, Paul Spooner, Fiona White, Catherine Young were also in attendance.

**Agenda  
Item No.**

**Officer**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. LOCAL CODE OF CONDUCT - DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

**4. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader announced that this August Bank holiday weekend the council would be celebrating with local traders in the town with a special

Bank Holiday Sale Bonanza, a weekend of competitions, amazing offers and lots of prizes. It was the last few days of the government #EatOuttoHelpOut scheme, and there would be free parking in the town from 3pm on Saturday, 2pm on Sunday and 4pm on Monday. The Leader reminded everyone that as we all get used to a little more freedom, we must remain mindful of the pandemic and respect social distance.

The Leader referred to the proposal made by Surrey County Council to make the whole of the county into a single unitary authority, effectively removing the whole tier of local government that represents the boroughs and districts. All households had been sent a communication from the County Council leader, Tim Oliver, about his plans of a vision for Surrey. The Leader regretted that this proposal was produced without any consultation with the leaders of the boroughs and districts on the change to the structure and ignored all the work done by the boroughs and districts throughout the pandemic. In response, district and borough leaders across the whole of the county had come together to put a counter proposal to the government. The Leader explained that Guildford Borough Council was working collaboratively to create a single voice whilst ensuring that each individual authority would be able to adopt its own approach to sharing information with residents, businesses, associations and other stakeholders. It was proposed that the eleven boroughs and districts across Surrey would work jointly on all communications with residents and businesses and would engage KPMG to prepare a presentation of an alternative joint approach to be submitted to government.

To share the cost of this joint work across all boroughs and districts the Leader had requested an additional report to feature on the agenda, which proposed that this council should set aside a budget of up to £30,000 to fund its participation in that work.

The next step in the pandemic would be the reopening of local schools. The Leader stressed that Covid-19 was still here and everyone must remain cautious. The number of cases was increasing across the country, but locally numbers were still relatively low. The only way to avoid another lockdown was to remember to stay safe and to look out for each other. Social distancing was still very important and everyone should remain mindful of others.

## **5. NEW CLIMATE CHANGE AND INNOVATION BOARDS**

RESOLVED:

Marieke van  
der Reijden

- (1) That the existing Climate Change and Innovation Board be disbanded.
- (2) That two new working groups be established, namely the Climate Change Board and the Innovation Board.
- (3) That the terms of reference of each Board, including the respective memberships, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report submitted to the Executive be approved.

Reason

To facilitate a more focussed approach to this important work.

Alternative options considered and rejected by the Executive

To make no change to the Climate Change and Innovation Board.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by the Leader or lead councillors and any dispensation granted

None.

**6. WEYSIDE URBAN VILLAGE: RELOCATION OF WOKING ROAD DEPOT**

RESOLVED:

Michael Lee-  
Dickson

- (1) That the relocation of the Council depot to accommodate administrative and operational functions, as described in the report submitted to the Executive, be approved.
- (2) That the sum of £2.48 million be transferred from the Provisional to the Approved Capital Programme to enable the detailed design of the new Guildford Borough Council depot to be undertaken.

Reason

The budget will enable the detailed design of the new depot site in order to deliver construction, thereby releasing the current depot site as part of the Weyside Urban Village Development.

Alternative options considered and rejected by the Executive

To cease the project, retaining the Council depot on its existing site.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by the Leader or lead councillors and any dispensation granted

None.

**7. DEVOLUTION AND RECOVERY BILL: CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS A JOINT LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION CASE FOR CHANGE SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE #**

James  
Whiteman

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council commits to contributing up to £30,000 towards the total cost of a submission of a Local Government Reorganisation Case for Change to the MHCLG, to be undertaken by KPMG and commissioned jointly by the 11 Surrey borough and district councils, including the cost of any further specialist advice.
- (2) That the contribution referred to in paragraph (1) above be met from the Corporate Inflation budget.

Reason

To enable a robust business case for structural change, supported by Surrey borough and district councils, to be made to the Secretary of State as expeditiously as possible in response to the Government's anticipated Recovery and Devolution White Paper.

Alternative options considered and rejected by the Executive

None.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by the Leader or lead councillors and any dispensation granted

None.

**Note:** By reason of the special circumstances described below, the chairman considered that this item should be dealt with at this meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B 4 (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Special Circumstances:** This matter required a decision by the Executive at this meeting to enable the Council to commit to the commissioning of a joint Case for Change submission, on behalf of the Surrey borough and district councils, as expeditiously as possible.

NOTES:

- (a) Any decision marked “#” means that the item was deemed by the Managing Director and agreed by the Executive and Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be a matter of urgency for the reason indicated and, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17 (h), such decision takes effect immediately and is therefore *not* subject to the call-in procedure.
- (b) The call-in procedure is as follows:
- (i) the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; or
  - (ii) a minimum of five members of the Council
- may require that a decision be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for review.
- (c) Councillors wishing to exercise their right to call-in a decision taken by the Executive must give notice in writing to the Democratic Services Manager. The reason for a councillor calling-in a decision shall accompany any such request and must meet one of the following criteria:
- (a) that there was insufficient, misleading or inaccurate information available to the decision-maker;
  - (b) that all the relevant facts had not been taken into account and/or properly assessed;
  - (c) that the decision is contrary to the budget and policy framework and is not covered by urgency provisions; or
  - (d) that the decision is not in accordance with the decision-making principles set out in the Constitution.
- Such notice should be marked for the attention of John Armstrong who can be contacted by e-mail on [john.armstrong@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:john.armstrong@guildford.gov.uk)
- (d) On receipt of a call-in request, the Monitoring Officer will decide, in consultation with the chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, whether it is valid and will notify the councillors concerned accordingly.
- (e) In the case of a valid call-in, the decision shall be referred to a special Call-in meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which shall be held within 21 days of the decision on validity referred to in paragraph (d) above.

- (f) A decision marked with an asterisk denotes that the matter is a “Key Decision” which is defined in the Council’s Constitution as an executive decision:
- (i) which is likely to result in significant expenditure or savings (of at least £200,000) having regard to the budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
  - (ii) which is likely to have a significant impact on two or more wards within the Borough.