



STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Tuesday, 5th January, 2021

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

Vice-Chairman:

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

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 Paul Abbey, Richard Billington, Chris Blow, Colin Cross, Angela Goodwin, Angela Gunning, Diana Jones, Nigel Manning, Ramsey Nagaty, Tony Rooth and Paul Spooner were also in attendance.

**Agenda
Item No.**

**Officer(s) to
action Item**

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 24 November 2020 were confirmed as a correct record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader expressed deep regret for the circumstances resulting in the current lockdown measures, whilst stressing the need for positivity and

his continued confidence in the strong community spirit in Guildford that would face the challenges as it had in the previous periods of restrictions. The need for everyone to respect the restrictions was underlined in order to support services and to prevent the NHS becoming overwhelmed by the pandemic.

The Leader set out the Government's statistics following the sharp rise of Covid hospitalisations over recent weeks:

- 1 Sept 2020: 496
- 1 November: 9,623
- Christmas Day: 17,701
- 4 January 2021: 26,626

It was noted that in Surrey case numbers were amongst the worst in the country approaching nearly 700 per 100,000 people. It was suggested that given 1 in 3 people displayed no symptoms and that probably 1% of the Borough currently had Covid.

The Leader reiterated the support offered to residents and businesses by Guildford Borough Council. The website provided details of the support available. Council staff were praised for their continued efforts and achievements.

The new Director of Strategic Services, Dawn Hudd was welcomed.

5. STRATEGIC PROPERTY ACQUISITION PROCEDURE AND REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Decision:

Melissa
Bromham

- (1) That a new procedure for the Council to follow when considering and, where appropriate, approving the acquisition of strategic and/or operational property assets, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Executive, be adopted, subject to the amendment to the 'Affordability' criterion set out in the Supplementary Information Sheet.
- (2) That the transfer of £5 million from the provisional capital programme (scheme no. PR371 – strategic property acquisitions) to the approved capital programme be approved.
- (3) That the Director of Strategic Services be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Asset Management, the Director of Resources, and the relevant Lead Councillor with portfolio responsibility for finance and asset management, to approve strategic and/or operational property acquisitions within the set parameters of the new procedure.

Reason:

To secure the funding of various prospective property acquisition for strategic/ operational purposes and apply a robust and streamlined approach for future acquisition of operational and strategic property assets.

Other options considered and rejected by the Executive:

None

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

None

6. REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUPS

Decision:

John
Armstrong

- (1) That the working groups listed below continue with their work:
 - Arts Development Strategy & Public Art Strategy Board
 - Aspire Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Climate Change Board
 - Electric Theatre Monitoring Group
 - Future Guildford Board
 - Guildford Community Covenant Panel
 - Housing Delivery Board
 - Innovation Board
 - Local Plan Panel
 - Major Projects Portfolio Board
 - Museum Working Group
 - Play Development Strategy & Fixed Play Equipment Group
 - Property Review Group
 - Sports Development Strategy Group
 - Town Twinning Working Group
 - Weyside Urban Village Development Governance Board
- (2) That no changes be made to the terms of reference of the working groups referred to in paragraph (1) above, with the exception of the Museum Working Group whose terms of reference will now be as follows:
 1. To guide the future direction of the Museum service.
 2. To consider the future of the Council's art collection in order to inform decisions around its future management and display.
 3. To report directly to the Executive in respect of 1. and 2. above.
- (3) That the current membership of each of the working groups referred to in paragraph (1) be confirmed for the remainder of the 2020-21 municipal year and for the 2021-22 municipal year, including the appointment of Councillor Angela Gunning as one of the local ward members on the Weyside Urban Village Development Governance Board, and subject to any changes requested by the political groups, which shall be referred to the Leader of the Council to approve.
- (4) That political group leaders be requested to submit nominations for consideration by the Leader of the Council in respect of the vacancies on the Electric Theatre Monitoring Group and the Guildford Community Covenant Panel.

- (5) That the proposed Planning Committee Review Working Group and the Electoral Review Working Group be established in accordance with their respective terms of reference and composition, as set out in the report submitted to the Executive, and that the councillors nominated from the political groups be appointed for the remainder of the 2020-21 municipal year and for the 2021-22 municipal year.
- (6) That Councillor Tony Rooth be appointed as chairman of the Electoral Review Working Group.

Reasons:

- (1) To comply with the requirement on the part of the Executive to periodically review the continuation of the various Working Groups in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24 (j).
- (2) To consider the recommendations of the recent LGA Planning Committee Peer Review

Other options considered and rejected by the Executive:

None

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

None

7. SURREY LEADERS' GROUP: NOMINATION TO SURREY & BORDERS PARTNERSHIP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

No nominations for submission to the Surrey Leaders' Group in respect of the appointment of Governor to sit on the Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health Foundation Trust) had been received.

John
Armstrong

Any councillor with an interest in the vacancy should contact the Leader of the Council prior to the deadline for receipt of nominations, which was Tuesday 12 January 2021.

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 Councilmay 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

- (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.