

EXECUTIVE

26 September 2017

- * Councillor Paul Spooner (Chairman)
- * Councillor Matt Furniss (Vice-Chairman)

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| * Councillor David Bilbé | Councillor Graham Ellwood |
| * Councillor Richard Billington | * Councillor Michael Illman |
| * Councillor Philip Brooker | * Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith |
| * Councillor Geoff Davis | * Councillor Iseult Roche |

*Present

Councillors Angela Gunning, David Reeve and Caroline Reeves were also in attendance.

EX37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Graham Ellwood.

EX38 LOCAL CODE OF CONDUCT - DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

EX39 MINUTES

The Executive approved the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2017. The Chairman signed the minutes.

EX40 RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND FRAMEWORK 2017

The Executive considered a report on the draft Risk Management Strategy and Framework 2017. The Executive noted that the Strategy and Framework would be reported on an annual basis to the Corporate Governance and Standards Committee who had commended its adoption at its meeting held on 27 July 2017. Effective risk management was an integral part of the Council's governance framework.

Having considered the report, the Executive

RESOLVED:

That the Risk Management Strategy and Framework 2017 be adopted, subject to:

- (1) the inclusion in Step 8: Review, Report and Monitor of the requirement for an annual report to be presented to the Corporate Governance and Standards Committee reviewing progress on the management of risk within the Council generally and monitoring future progress against the Strategy and Framework; and
- (2) the inclusion in the corporate report template of a separate section on "Risk Management Implications"

Reason for Decision:

To ensure that there is a system for effective monitoring, development and operation of risk management in the Council.

EX41 GUILDFORD BOROUGH PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT UPDATE 2017

The Executive considered a report outlining the Guildford Borough Planning Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2017 update which had been prepared to supersede the Planning Contributions SPD 2011. The changes to the SPD would include up to date reference to legislation, policy and guidance across government.

The updated SPD also included minor changes to thresholds and obligations in relation to affordable housing, sustainable design and construction, open space, public art, SANGs, CCTV and education. The Executive considered that the adoption of an updated Planning Contributions SPD would help increase transparency and certainty for applicants when submitting planning applications.

Having considered the report, the Executive therefore

RESOLVED:

That the Guildford Borough Planning Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) update 2017, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Executive, be adopted as an update and replacement for the 2011 SPD, which is hereby revoked.

Reason for Decision:

To provide up-to-date advice to applicants for planning permission in order to assist in securing supporting infrastructure and mitigate any harm arising from planned developments through determining planning applications or appeals.

EX42 TOWN TWINNING AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The Executive considered a report recommending that the Council's existing twinning agreement with Freiburg was strengthened, that the Council's current twinning arrangement with Bar-le-Duc, in France was formally terminated and that new international relationships were sought with the French city of Versailles and Dongying in China.

The Executive received a verbal update from the Lead Councillor for Infrastructure and Governance on how the proposed twinning arrangements, specifically with Dongying and Versailles would build new international relationships for Guildford promoting technology, science, medicine, artificial intelligence, business and tourism. The Executive noted that these recommendations had derived from the cross-party Town Twinning Working Group established in September 2016.

Guildford was formally twinned with Freiberg in 1979. Whilst good cultural relationships had been established by the Guildford-Freiburg Association, it was felt that economic, tourism and business links could be more proactively sought by the Council.

The Executive noted that the twinning between Guildford and Bar-le-Duc, France established in 1958, was less well known and had not been pursued. To that end, it was therefore recommended that the twinning between the two towns was terminated.

The British Embassy had recommended that Guildford as a possible suitable UK twin with Versailles. The Town Twinning Working Group had identified a number of areas as priorities for co-operation, including the development of business links, promotion of tourism, arts and culture and developing links between schools and universities.

The Executive recognised the global significance of China given its exponential economic growth in recent decades. Building on existing links between the Universities of Surrey and

Dongying, the opportunity had been taken to explore the establishment of a formal relationship with Dongying City in China. The Town Twinning Working Group had identified a number of potential benefits in terms of developing cultural, educational, business and tourism links with Dongying.

In relation to the existing link between Guildford and Mukono in Uganda, the Executive commended its continuation and the good work undertaken so far, delivering many successful projects for the Mukono community.

The Executive also considered concerns raised in relation to the proposed relationship with Dongying, China, specifically;

- what Guildford had in common with such a vast city with a population of 200,000 and an industry driven by oil;

The Executive considered that there were many similarities between Guildford and Dongying, especially in terms of the pursuit of scientific and technological advancements in industry and business. Advancements in medical technology and the sharing of that knowledge would only be of benefit to Guildford residents and the known problems of an increasingly ageing population.

- How would the Council benefit and how would the return on investment be measured? Return on investment would be measured over time and would not be formally monitored by performance indicators and had not been applied to other twinning or links pursued by the Council.

- Would the Executive councillors be using any of their own monies for travelling to Dongying?

The visit to Dongying was necessary to establish the working relationship moving forward and any travel costs had been kept to a minimum.

- Surrey County Council had withdrawn their funding of adult social care services and therefore would any spare monies be better spent on this?

The Executive did not comment on the decisions made by Surrey County Council in relation to the spending on the provision of Social Care Services.

In order to promote and forge new international relationships with Dongying and Versailles that will be of benefit to Guildford, the Executive

RECOMMEND:

- (1) That proposed work to develop and strengthen our existing relationship with Freiburg, referred to in the report submitted to the Executive, be supported.
- (2) That the twinning arrangement with Bar-le-Duc be formally ended.
- (3) That discussions to progress the establishment of a new formal twinning agreement with Versailles be supported.
- (4) That the Leader and Managing Director be authorised to sign a proposed partnership agreement with Dongying, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

Reason for Recommendation:

To develop new international relationships and enhance existing twinning arrangement to maximise the benefits for Guildford residents.

EX43 TIMETABLE OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2018-19

The Executive, having considered the draft timetable of Council and committee meetings for the 2018-19 municipal year,

RECOMMEND:

That the proposed timetable of Council and Committee meetings for the 2018-19 municipal year, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Executive, be approved.

Reason for Recommendation:

To assist with the preparation of individual committee work programmes.

The meeting finished at 8.10 pm

Signed

Chairman

Date