

## STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Thursday, 21st July, 2022

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)) \*

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Julia McShane ((Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Councillor for Community and Housing))

Councillor Tim Anderson, (Lead Councillor for Resources) \*

Councillor Tom Hunt, (Lead Councillor for Development Management)

Councillor John Redpath, (Lead Councillor for Economy) \*

Councillor John Rigg, (Lead Councillor for Regeneration)

Councillor James Steel, (Lead Councillor for Environment)

Councillor Cait Taylor, (Lead Councillor for Climate Change) \*

\*Present

Councillors Angela Gunning and Paul Spooner were in remote attendance

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>		<b>Officer(s) to action Item</b>
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tom Hunt, Julia McShane, John Rigg and James Steel. .	
2.	<b>LOCAL CODE OF CONDUCT - DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> There were no declarations of interest.	
3.	<b>MINUTES</b>	

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 were confirmed as correct. The Chairman signed the minutes.

#### **4. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader thanked those council officers who had worked hard to support residents and businesses during the recent heatwave. It was noted that refuse workers had started work at 5am and no route had been missed. Praise was also directed to the Fire Service for its swift responses to numerous calls around the borough.

It was announced that the Council Tax Discretionary Energy Rebate had been extended to include properties in bands E, F, G or H. The Council would proactively be contacting eligible residents with information, but residents were advised to check criteria requirements on the Council's website and, if eligible, apply before 12 August 2022.

The Safer Guildford Partnership had updated the Guildford town centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). The order gave police and some council officers power to tackle anti-social behaviour. This included confiscating alcohol and legal highs and fines up to £1,000 might be imposed if warnings about anti-social behaviour were ignored.

Saturday 23 July was 'County Flag Day'. Local resident Neil Thompson was thanked for suggesting the Council take part and the Surrey county flag would be flown at various locations.

The re-opening of the galleries at Guildford House was celebrated with two exhibitions. 'Georgian Women, Portraits by John Russell' was open from 16 July until 8 October 2022. Alongside this, 'Fifty Years of Friendship' showcased a selection of artwork acquired with support from 'The Friends of Guildford House'. This was open from 21 July until 8 October.

'Videogames - Made in Guildford' was Guildford Museum's latest exhibition. The display was open between 2 July and 24 September and gave a snapshot into the thriving videogame sector in Guildford and the local area.

Guildford Castle was to reopen from 27<sup>th</sup> July and it would be possible to climb to the top of the tower for views across the town until the end of October (Wednesday to Saturday).

There had been a memorial service at the Holy Trinity Church on 18<sup>th</sup> July to remember former Mayor, Councillor Richard Billington.

Resources Director and s151 officer, Claire Morris would be leaving the Council at the end of July and the Leader paid tribute to her work over the past nine years.

Finally, the Leader was able to confirm that Police had used new powers awarded to them through s.60c of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 2022 to remove an illegal traveller encampment on Stoke Park.

**5. TO CONSIDER ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The intention of the report was to collate and track progress of all recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Executive throughout the year, and to log the Executive decisions on the submitted matters. The Executive agreed the response to the recommendations on 22 March 2022.

John  
Armstrong

The Executive noted the report and that there had been no updates since the previous meeting.

**6. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-22**

Decision:

John  
Armstrong

**To recommend to the Corporate Governance & Standards Committee:**

1. That the Committee adopts the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2021-22, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, and publishes the Annual Governance Statement alongside the adopted statement of accounts for 2021-22.
2. That the Committee approves the self-assessment of the Council's compliance with the CIPFA financial management code reported at Appendix 2.

Reason for Recommendation:

To comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Council must prepare, approve, and publish an Annual Governance Statement.

Other 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.

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.