

## **Decisions of the Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 21 October 2014**

**These decisions are published for information in  
advance of the publication of the Minutes**

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### **DECISIONS:**

#### **1. PETITIONS**

##### **(1) St Paul's Road and Wellington Crescent, Shipley – Residents Only Parking**

**As the petitioners were not in attendance this petition was not received in accordance with the Council's Constitution, Standing Order 11.5, Part 3A Rules of Procedure.**

##### **(2) School Places in Wharfedale**

**Resolved –**

**That the petition be referred to the Executive.**

***ACTION: City Solicitor (referral to Committees)***

#### **2. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

**Resolved –**

##### **(1) That the appointment of the following non-voting co-opted representatives to the Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2014/15 Municipal Year be confirmed:**

- Julia Pearson, Bradford Environmental Forum**
- Nicola Hoggart, Environment Agency**

##### **(2) That the appointment of the following non-voting co-opted representatives to the Corporate Parenting Panel for the 2014/15 Municipal Year be confirmed:–**



- Mr J Pickles – West Yorkshire Police
- Mr P Weston – Bradford Achievement Service
- Ms N O’Neill – Bradford NHS
- The Chair of the Children in Care Council

- (3) That Councillor Swallow replace Councillor Ikram on the Governance and Audit Committee, Councillor Malcolm Slater be Deputy Chair and Councillor Ikram be an alternate.
- (4) That Councillor Jamil replace Councillor Javed on the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**ACTION:** *City Solicitor*

**3. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015-16 TO 2017-18 AND BEYOND**

**Resolved -**

**That the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/16 to 2017/18 be approved.**

**ACTION:** *Director of Finance*

**4. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – FOOD SAFETY IN THE BRADFORD DISTRICT**

**Resolved-**

**That the Food Safety Service Plan be approved.**

**ACTION:** *Strategic Director Environment and Sport*

**5. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE APPOINTMENT PANEL – APPOINTMENT OF THE POST OF INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Resolved-**

- (1) That the appointment of Suzan Hemingway as Interim Chief Executive be approved.
- (2) That the proposal to appoint to the position of Interim Chief Executive on the salary package as detailed in paragraphs 2.5 and 4.1 of Document “E” and in accordance with the Council’s Pay Policy Statement 2014/15 be agreed.
- (3) That the post of Assistant City Solicitor be designated as Monitoring Officer pursuant to Section 5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 for the term of office of the Interim Chief Executive.
- (4) That the post of Assistant City Solicitor be designated as the proper officer to fulfil the role of Deputy Returning Officer for the term of office of the Interim Chief Executive.

- (5) That all proper officer functions which are delegated in the Constitution to the City Solicitor and/or Monitoring Officer be delegated to the Assistant City Solicitor for the term of office of the Interim Chief Executive.

**ACTION:** *Interim Head of Human Resources*

6. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE APPOINTMENT PANEL – APPROVAL OF THE SALARY PACKAGES FOR THE POSTS OF STRATEGIC DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND SPORT AND STRATEGIC DIRECTOR REGENERATION AND CULTURE**

**Resolved-**

That the proposal to appoint to the positions of Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture and Strategic Director, Environment and Sport on the salary packages detailed in paragraphs 2.8 and 2.13 of Document “F” and in accordance with the Council’s Pay Policy Statement 2014/15 be agreed.

**ACTION:** *Interim Chief Executive/Interim Head of Human Resources*

7. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – USE OF COUNCIL RESOURCES FOR ELECTION PURPOSES**

**Resolved-**

- (1) That Members of Council consider the issues raised in this report and acknowledge the actions taken to establish the facts and the risk identified as a result thereof.
- (2) That specific advice is provided to all Members who are candidates or agents in a local election to remind them that Council resources must not be used to produce election publicity material.
- (3) That the guidance provided to all senior managers and Members of Council is specifically circulated to all employees who have a direct working relationship with Members and their managers with an instruction to managers to discuss the specific obligations with individual members of staff.
- (4) That the Governance and Audit Committee’s resolution of 10 October 2014 be agreed to require the submission of a further report to their meeting in November 2014 for the Committee to consider if there are further matters that need to be considered by Council at its meeting on 9 December 2014.

**ACTION:** *Assistant City Solicitor*

## **8. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

**Resolved-**

**This Council recognises the right of all children to be protected from all forms of exploitation, victimisation and abuse, including sexual abuse and exploitation and to receive help as laid out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are committed to doing all that we can to protect and promote the rights of children, particularly those in the Council's care.**

**The Council is appalled by child sexual abuse and exploitation and believes that all victims deserve justice and that all perpetrators should be pursued and prosecuted.**

**The Council is committed to continuing to work closely with West Yorkshire Police and other partners to take coordinated action to disrupt, prevent and investigate Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), arrest, prosecute and convict perpetrators and attach priority status to this activity.**

**The Council recognises that:**

- a) It continues to provide support to victims and survivors of CSE**
- b) Progress has been made to address the issue of CSE in Bradford District including:
  - Bradford Safeguarding Children Board, an independent body, has prioritised child sexual exploitation, a crime which is often complex, challenging and understandably very difficult for victims to talk about.**
  - Development of a multi-agency hub which co-locates workers under one roof enabling a rapid reaction to intelligence relating to child sexual exploitation.**
  - Know the Signs Awareness campaign**
  - Development of a systematic approach to gathering the views and experiences of young people.****
- c) A significant number of arrests, prosecutions and prison sentences have arisen as a result of this close working in recent years.**
- d) The District's strategies and procedures for safeguarding children and prosecuting those we have found to have abused them has developed over the years in line with national best practice, government guidance and local experience.**
- e) Additional Council investment is supporting preventative and educational work in communities, schools and with parents commissioned through specialist voluntary sector organisations:
  - Every year 10 student in Bradford District has the opportunity to attend a child sexual exploitation drama reinforced by pre and post performance lesson plans.**
  - Work in Keighley by the Hand in Hand project has been boosted to provide more preventative group work for young people and to train peer mentors.****

- **Barnardos has been commissioned to expand its work to support more boys and young men, and to develop a new resource pack for work with families to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation.**
  - **PACE (Parents against Child Exploitation) has been commissioned to deliver preventative group work to parents and to provide intensive support to the parents of children who are known to be experiencing child sexual exploitation.**
- f) **That the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee keeps action to tackle CSE under regular review.**
- g) **Threats to children remain and that, sadly, there can be no absolutes in keeping children safe because agencies cannot control or predict the behaviour of all adults.**
- h) **There is a need for specialist support for victims, something that is a nationwide issue.**
- i) **That a cold case team is being established in partnership with West Yorkshire Police to investigate historical cases of CSE.**
- j) **The Jay Report into CSE in Rotherham has raised concerns about how historic cases in Bradford District may have been dealt with.**
- k) **People are seeking assurances that current arrangements for the prevention, disruption and investigation of CSE and related arrests and prosecutions are effective and robust.**

**The Council resolves to:**

- (1) **Confirm our commitments, along with West Yorkshire Police, to keep prioritising measures to tackle child sexual exploitation and prosecute perpetrators, securing the resources needed to do so effectively and putting the interests of children first.**
- (2) **Continue working to improve how local organisations, work together to try to provide the very best services to keep children and young people safe.**
- (3) **Agree that a report and recommendations on CSE be taken to the Executive at the earliest opportunity.**
- (4) **Ensure that all historical cases are investigated fully and wherever possible the perpetrators are brought to justice.**
- (5) **Express our deep regret that in the past, like other organisations nationally, West Yorkshire Police and Bradford Council did not have the rigorous and co-ordinated approach to dealing with allegations of child sexual exploitation that we have developed in recent years.**
- (6) **Seek to ensure that our understanding of the issues and of how to respond to, investigate and prevent child sexual exploitation continue to improve so that effective action to stop CSE is taken.**
- (7) **Work with the Police and others to encourage victims of historical CSE to come forward and make it easier and possible for them to do so.**

- (8) Ensure that the Council makes appropriate additional resources available to support Police investigations of historical cases.**
- (9) Ensure that all necessary measures are in place to secure historical and contemporary information and data relating to CSE cases.**
- (10) Review Bradford Children’s Safeguarding Board’s “Seven Point Strategic Response to CSE” to ensure public and professional confidence that it remains robust and effective.**
- (11) Continue to take action to ensure that the safeguarding arrangements for Bradford District children cared for outside of the District are as good as those for children cared for within it.**
- (12) Recognise that many people are still reluctant or feel unable to talk about CSE issues and about how we can reduce the risks of people becoming victims or perpetrators.**
- (13) Continue, along with our partners, to work with our communities to ensure that they understand the role of local people in identifying and reporting CSE and get the support they need to do so.**
- (14) Continue to work in partnership to support and improve awareness of CSE in schools and to encourage all schools to take up the offer of related materials, drama and information.**
- (15) Work to ensure that all regulatory functions of the Council contribute to the safeguarding of children.**
- (16) Provide written information and guidance about CSE to all Elected Members on how to identify cases and deal with them appropriately so that they know what questions to ask and where to go for help.**
- (17) Provide additional training sessions on CSE for Elected Members.**
- (18) Request the Council’s Political Group leaders to take steps to ensure that all elected members undertake training at the earliest possible opportunity.**
- (19) Support multi-agency work to identify the total resource implications of investigating historical activity across all agencies and make the case to Government for ongoing financial support.**
- (20) Request the Children’s’ Services Overview and Scrutiny to continue to keep the work of the Council and its partners in tackling CSE under ongoing review.**

**ACTION:     *Strategic Director Children’s Services***

## **9.     ILLEGAL TRAVELLER ENCAMPMENTS**

**Resolved-**

**This Council recognises the inconvenience and distress sometimes caused to local residents by illegal gypsy and traveller encampments and recognises the need to**

use Council resources to remove illegal encampments and then clear the site of waste etc once they are vacated.

In light of the inconveniences to residents and the costs to the Council at a time of strongly competing demands for funds, the Council:

- Notes that work has already started on this issue and welcomes the setting up of the illegal encampment working group in partnership with the police
- Notes that the Police and Crime Commissioner has already been contacted about this issue

The Council therefore resolves to:-

- Continue to work with partners to devise and implement a series of standard procedures to deal with illegal encampments promptly and effectively.
- Where reports of criminality have been received, that the details of the concerns are passed without delay to the appropriate agency eg Police, Trading Standards, Environment Agency for appropriate action
- Investigate the options for recovery of all costs incurred from the public purse, with consideration given to contacting the relevant Minister to request that laws be amended or introduced where appropriate, to increase the Council's powers to recover all costs involved.

**ACTION:** *Strategic Director, Environment and Sport*

#### 10. AMENDMENT OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

Resolved-

- (1) That the recommendations set out in the report of the ad-hoc Independent Remuneration Panel be approved.
- (2) That the Bradford Council Scheme of Allowances for Members be amended to reflect the recommendations of the IRP to be implemented from the date of this Council meeting.

**ACTION:** *Assistant City Solicitor*

#### 11. REVIEW OF POLLING ARRANGEMENTS

Resolved-

- (1) That the proposed changes to the polling districts, polling places and polling stations be approved.
- (2) That the designation of the whole polling district as the polling place be approved.

**ACTION:** *Chief Executive/Assistant City Solicitor*

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FROM: Suzan Hemingway  
City Solicitor  
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

*Committee Secretariat Contact: Adrian Tumber – 01274 432435*  
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