

Decisions of the Council on Tuesday, 8 December 2020

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

Decisions

6. PETITIONS (Standing Order 11)

Keighley Carnegie Library

Resolved –

That the petition be referred to the Executive.

Damage to village open space, Menston

Resolved –

That the petition be referred to Shipley Area Committee.

ACTION: City Solicitor

8. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND JOINT COMMITTEES (Standing Order 4)

Resolved –

- (1) That Dr Samina Karim representing Children’s Social Care be appointed as a non-voting co-opted member to the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.**
- (2) That Councillor Poulsen replace Councillor Pennington on the Staffing Committee and Councillor Davies replace Councillor Poulsen as an alternate.**
- (3) That Councillor Poulsen replace Councillor Pennington on the Chief Officer Disciplinary Committee.**
- (4) That Councillor Pollard replace Councillor Goodall on the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillors Barker and Winnard replace Councillors Pollard and Sullivan as alternates.**
- (5) That Councillor Sullivan replace Councillor Riaz as an alternate on the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**
- (6) That Councillor Sullivan replace Councillor Goodall as an alternate on the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

- (7) That Councillor Kyle Green replace Councillor Goodall on the Keighley Area Committee and Councillor Goodall be an alternate and Councillor Gibbons be deleted as a Conservative Group alternate.
- (8) That Councillor Pennington replace Councillor Brown on the Regulatory and Appeals Committee and Councillor Brown replace Councillor Pollard as an alternate.

ACTION: City Solicitor

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2020/21**

Resolved –

That the changes to the Treasury Management Strategy (Governance and Audit Committee Document “AF1”) be adopted.

ACTION: Director of Finance

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2019/20**

Resolved –

That the report and the changes to the Treasury Management Policy, detailed in paragraph 7 of Governance and Audit Committee Document “AG”, be adopted.

ACTION: Director of Finance

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION - CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Resolved –

That the proposed changes to Contract Standing Orders and Financial Regulations contained in Governance and Audit Document “C” be accepted to support improvements in the organisation’s financial and procurement processes and procedures.

ACTION: City Solicitor/Head of Procurement/Director of Finance

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REVIEW UP TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Resolved –

That the report (Governance and Audit Committee Document “N”) be adopted.

ACTION: Director of Finance

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE - THE COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025**

Resolved –

That the draft Council Plan set out in Appendix 1 to Executive Document “CQ” and draft KPIs and targets in Appendix 2 be adopted.

ACTION: Chief Executive

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE - PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2021-2025**

Resolved –

That the Procurement Strategy 2021-2025 (Executive Document “CP”) be adopted.

ACTION: Head of Procurement

12. **SUPPORT FOR ONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS DURING THE CURRENT PANDEMIC**

Resolved –

This Council notes that the current pandemic has highlighted the problem of providing help and support for solitary people without family or any form of support network and who are therefore particularly vulnerable. The number of people living on their own went up by 16% to 7.7 million between 1997 and 2017, while the UK population went up only by 13%. By 2039, the number of one-person households is projected to rise to 10.7 million and whilst many of them will have families, a significant proportion of that number will not. An outcome of the pandemic is a realisation that people without a support network are particularly vulnerable and that no person or service appears to have responsibility for ensuring their safety and care.

The Council resolves to:

- (1) Work with groups and organisations such as Ageing Without Children to quantify the scale of the problem faced by solitary people.**
- (2) Create a point of contact where help and support can be accessed by and for solitary people without family.**
- (3) Work with the police, health services and the voluntary sector to establish clear areas of responsibility for those living alone without any form of family support.**

ACTION: Chief Executive/Strategic Directors

12. **COVID-19 AND THE WAY FORWARD**

Resolved –

Council notes:

- **Covid19 has impacted on many residents and businesses across the District and continues to devastate families who have lost loved ones. Many people have made huge sacrifices.**
- **There has been an unprecedented challenge to the Government & Local Authorities, posed by the Covid 19 pandemic**
- **Government has worked with the local authority to financially support areas such as local test and trace, PPE and loss of council income during the pandemic.**
- **the government continues to assist the District through and beyond the pandemic, including additional funding for schools, safer streets and investment in infrastructure and retraining in industries of the future, to create jobs and grow the economy**
- **the continuation of the furlough scheme until the end of March 2021**
- **The recently announced pay rise to the lowest paid council staff is welcomed at a time that many people across the district are losing their jobs and facing pay cuts.**

Council resolves:

- **To thank key workers and those who have worked so tirelessly throughout the pandemic**
- **Ensure Government Business Support Grants are passed onto businesses who need them as soon as possible**
- **to complement essential reactive responses to Covid 19, with an increased focus on proactive, post Covid 19 restrictions strategies, to minimise the ongoing detrimental effects of the infection on local people and the local economy.**
- **To look at practical steps the council can take such as rents the council charges to tenants and parking charges being cut to support local businesses.**
- **to work cross party on the council and with WYCA, the LEP, schools, colleges, university, employers and other key partners to ensure we support people locally with the skills and support they need to gain valuable employment**

- to promote the need for partnership working to minimise the ongoing damages caused by the pandemic.
- To ensure local ward councillors are involved in covid19 decision making in their ward.

ACTION: Chief Executive/Strategic Directors

12. COVID-19: THE DISTRICT'S RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Resolved –

First and foremost we offer our sincere condolences to all families in the district, the country and across the world, who have lost loved ones to Covid-19. Every single loss is a tragedy.

Faced with such a challenge we give a big heartfelt thank you to the people of the district, the volunteers, council staff, school staff, health service and all our partners for the incredible work you have done during this difficult time. It has been a real community effort by the whole district. Your fortitude has been amazing and humbling; it will see us through the pandemic to a potential vaccine, recovery and return to a more normal way of life once again. For now, West Yorkshire is in Tier 3 along with South Yorkshire and the Humber, we must do everything we can to continue this effort and get the infection rate down.

There have been countless examples of ingenuity, brilliance and self-sacrifice, showcasing the very best of our district. Refuse collectors receiving gifts and children's drawings from residents grateful that their bin collections have continued uninterrupted; volunteers in Ilkley sewing personal protective equipment; school children making visors; school staff providing meals and home learning as well as school-based education through lockdown and beyond; community centres getting food to our most vulnerable residents; our Stronger Communities team helping people visit the graves of loved ones safely; Covid ambassadors and wardens out reassuring their neighbourhoods and supporting test, trace and isolate; our social workers continuing with visits and substantive checks amid growing demands, as we took the decision not to apply the emergency statutory instrument which would have allowed us to reduce checks and visits on our children; finance staff working all hours to get grants out to businesses; staff from areas such as leisure services and school transport redeployed to do incredible work in our bereavement services. Just a few examples of the incredible team effort.

As a council communication has been vital. We have worked to keep our communities, councillors and staff well informed throughout.

Our ongoing communications with the public has included: letters to every household in the district; regular Stay Connected newsletters to 30,914 subscribers to Covid bulletins and 7,198 subscribers to our coronavirus business support emails; almost 3.4 million views of our Covid webpages; and huge engagement with our social media and customer services.

At the time of writing, the latest weekly update on 11th November showed that our hub had spoken to 10,024 people and visited 591 businesses in that week, we gave out 17,630 masks, Environmental Health received 225 complaints or requests for advice and took action on a further 159 reactive cases. Staff and volunteers continue to adapt and respond to the ever changing situation.

- **24th March – ‘The Council’s on-going emergency response to Covid-19’**
- **30th April – ‘The response to Covid-19 and the forecast financial impact’**
- **9th June – ‘Building a Better Future: living with Covid-19 and laying the foundations for a better future’**
- **7th July – ‘Finance Position Statement for 2020/21, including investments to respond to Covid-19’**
- **8th September – ‘Local Test & Trace expansion’**
- **9th November – ‘Covid-19: response, resilience, recovery’**

We resolve to:

- **Continue to offer every possible support to those who are poorly, recovering from the after-effects, self-isolating or shielding;**
- **Build on the success of our local test, trace and isolate initiative to complement the national system;**
- **Continue to support all our communities with clear information, reassurance and practical help, including for their physical and mental health;**
- **Support our business community and the jobs they sustain as much as we can so that they can survive these difficult times.**
- **Invest to support the strongest possible recovery from Covid-19 for our residents and businesses.**

We call on the government to:

- **Fund and support local test and trace for all local authorities, given it’s been a success for us**
- **Invest now in planning with local authorities for vaccination roll-out, which is likely to be essential in getting our lives back on track**
- **Invest more in self-isolation grants, as too few people in Bradford district can afford to be without pay for a fortnight.**

- **Think about economic recovery now and work in partnership with us. We have a West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Plan and the Bradford Economic Recovery Plan will be coming for consideration at Executive in December. We need the funding from Government to deliver this.**
- **Provide more financial support for businesses in areas in the North, like Bradford district, where businesses have been hard hit by long term restrictions, particularly the leisure and hospitality supply chain who have received nothing and the 3 million self employed workers, “The Forgotten”, who have fallen through the cracks.**
- **Address health inequalities – those who are disadvantaged have suffered the most**
- **Provide a proper three-year funding settlement for local government to tackle the costs of COVID as well as the impact it has had across the services of the council.**
- **Commit to a decent pay increase for those key workers – such as those council workers, police, fire and teachers who have given their all over the last year to keep residents safe and the country functioning.**
- **Take people with you - be open, honest and transparent and then the people will have trust and faith in the journey we are all travelling on.**

ACTION: Chief Executive/Strategic Directors

13. **APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORARY RECORDER**

Resolved –

- (1) **That the appointment of His Honour Judge Richard Mansell QC as Honorary Recorder of Bradford during his tenure as Resident Judge at Bradford Combined Court Centre, in accordance with the Courts Act 1971, be formally approved.**
- (2) **That the City Solicitor be requested, in consultation with the Lord Mayor, to make appropriate arrangements to mark his appointment when circumstances permit.**

ACTION: City Solicitor

FROM: Parveen Akhtar
City Solicitor
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Committee Secretariat Contact: Adrian Tumber, 07970 412150