

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2019

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 26 September 2019. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Democratic Services.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (IRP)

Council

AGREED

1. That the Independent Remuneration Panel be thanked for their work in producing the report at Appendix A.
2. That the Council agrees the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for revisions to the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2019/20, as set out in Appendix A to the report, subject to:
 - (i) The proposed Special Responsibility Allowance for the Deputy Leaders referred to on page 58 of the report being amended to read as follows:

Deputy Leader (Statutory)	£8,290
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The Special Responsibility Allowance for all other Cabinet members (except the Leader) to be set at £7,650.
 - (ii) Requesting the Independent Remuneration Panel:
 - (a) To undertake a further urgent review in respect of the Special Responsibility Allowances awarded to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee in order better to reflect the time commitment and responsibilities associated with those roles (the SRAs recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel in Appendix A to be applied to those roles until such time as further recommendations are received from the Panel); and
 - (b) To review whether Special Responsibility Allowances should also be payable to this Council's representatives on the Cambridge Fringes Joint Development Control Committee.
3. That, as recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel:
 - (i) The Council approves the implementation of:
 - (a) The increase in the Basic Allowance retrospectively with effect from 1 April 2019; and
 - (b) The amendments to Special Responsibility Allowances and all other changes proposed in the report of the Independent Remuneration

Panel with effect from 26 September 2019.

- (ii) The Basic Allowance be increased annually in line with the annual staff pay award to the end of the 2021/22 financial year.
 - (iii) The Special Responsibility Allowances be increased annually in line with increases made to the Basic Allowance to the end of the 2021/22 financial year.
 - (iv) The number of Special Responsibility Allowances that any councillor may receive normally be limited to two and that paragraph 4(2) of the Scheme of Members' Allowances be amended to read "No councillor may normally receive more than two Special Responsibility Allowances."
 - (v) That the section on "Public and Other Transport" in Schedule 1 to the Scheme of Members' Allowances be amended as set out in paragraph 3 of the Independent Remuneration Panel's report.
5. That the Interim Director of Corporate Services be authorised to implement and advertise the new scheme and make any consequential amendments to the Scheme of Members' Allowances in Part 6 of the Constitution.
6. That no further action be taken at this time with regard to review of the possible award of Special Responsibility Allowances in respect of any Executive Committees to be established by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, and that further information be awaited about the proposed arrangements for such committees.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Council

- (1) **NOTED** and **ENDORSED** the following changes in Committee membership and substitute appointments:
- (a) Scrutiny and Overview Committee:
 - (i) Councillor Gavin Clayton replaced by Councillor Nigel Cathcart as a member of the committee; and
 - (b) Cambridge Fringes Joint Development Control Committee:
 - (i) Councillor Sarah Cheung Johnson replaced by Councillor Dr. Claire Daunton as a substitute for this Committee.
 - (c) Audit and Corporate Governance Committee:
 - (i) Councillor Mark Howell replaced by Councillor Peter Topping as a member of the Committee.
 - (d) Planning Committee:
 - (i) Councillor Bill Handley replaced by Councillor Anna Bradnam as a member of the Committee; and
 - (ii) Councillor Anna Bradnam replaced by Dr. Claire Daunton as a substitute member of the Committee.
 - (e) Licensing Committee:
 - (i) Councillor Bill Handley replaced by Councillor Alex Malyon as a member of the Committee; and
 - (ii) Councillor Alex Malyon replaced by Councillor Bill Handley as a substitute member of the Committee.
- (2) **NOTED** that three Committees had been set up by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and the Leader had appointed the following members:
- (a) Skills Committee – Councillor Eileen Wilson, with Councillor Neil Gough as substitute; and
 - (b) Transport and Infrastructure Committee – Councillor Dr. Aidan Van de Weyer, with Councillor Neil Gough as substitute; and

(c) Housing and Communities Committee – Councillor Bridget Smith, with Councillor Hazel Smith as substitute.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR HEATHER WILLIAMS

The following motion was **LOST**:

South Cambs is a growth area, with 19,500 homes to be delivered in major new communities and existing villages. We know that many of these new homes will attract young families and the number of young people in the District will rise. It is therefore hugely important that the voice of young people is heard in the development of the Council's policies for the future of the District. This Council encourages youth engagement in local politics and supports the greater involvement of young people in decision-making at the Council and requests Cabinet to establish a cross-party Members' Task & Finish Group to consider options for delivering this.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR GRAHAM CONE

The following motion was **LOST**:

That this Council requests Cabinet to publish a table on its website each month including the following:

- The number of planning applications received during the previous month.
- The total number of live applications remaining at the end of the previous month
- The average validation time that month
- The average determination time that month
- The average time for a decision notice that month
- The date of submission of the oldest live planning application held by the Council.

These figures should set out a breakdown of minor, major applications, pre-applications, decision notices, discharge of conditions, reserved matters.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR NICK WRIGHT

The following motion was **LOST**:

With an external company now being involved in duties normally performed by officers of the Council's planning department, the Council requests Cabinet to ensure true transparency by making it clear to applicants, agents, residents, parish councils and local members when a Terraquest employee/contractor is involved in an application and the extent of their involvement in the application.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR PETER TOPPING

The following motion was **LOST**:

This Council notes with some concern the five year land supply and housing trajectory calculations as they apply to South Cambridgeshire District Council that have been approved by one member of the administration, outside of any council meeting, or meeting to which councillors could have been invited to be briefed.

In particular, the Council notes that the five year land supply is now calculated to be 5.3, down from six, according to the Council's own report published on 6 November.

The Council considers the proposed consultation on this issue – which is to send comments by email to the Director of Planning for the Council - to be insufficient in

terms of challenge and discussion by elected members, given how important this issue is to all of our villages and towns and their residents, who are rightly concerned with the impact of speculative development.

Therefore, this Council calls on the Lead Members for Housing and Planning to offer to, and attend with, members of this Council, a meeting and full briefing on the issue, to be arranged during the month of October. The purpose of the meeting would be to provide transparency on how the calculations have been arrived at, and to enable discussion, testing and challenge of matters such as the confidence rating attached to specific parts of the overall assessment.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR GEOFF HARVEY

Council **AGREED** the following motion:

Onshore wind is the cheapest new source of energy in the UK today - and the UK is the windiest country in Europe. New government policy is now needed to realise these benefits. Onshore wind can play a key role in an ambitious industrial strategy delivering clean, cheap and smart energy. Furthermore, onshore wind energy is vital to our aim of achieving 2050 net zero greenhouse gas emissions. Government statistics show that 79% of people now support onshore wind - fifteen times the proportion opposed. This Council resolves to make representations to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to request that the National Planning Policy Framework is amended so that applications for small-scale onshore wind developments in England of no more than five megawatts are treated in the same way as any other application for renewable and low carbon energy.