

Meeting POLICY COMMITTEE

Date Thursday 2 September 2021 (commencing at 10.30 am)

membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Ben Bradley MP (Chairman)
Bruce Laughton (Vice-Chairman)

Chris Barnfather
Richard Butler
Neil Clarke MBE
John Cottey
Jim Creamer
Boyd Elliott
Kate Foale **A**
Glynn Gilfoyle
Keith Girling

Richard Jackson
Philip Owen
David Shaw
Helen-Ann Smith **A**
Tracey Taylor
Michelle Welsh
Gordon Wheeler
Jason Zadrozny

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Mike Pringle substituted for Councillor Kate Foale

Councillor Elizabeth Williamson substituted for Councillor Helen-Ann Smith

OTHER COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

None

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Anthony May Chief Executive's Department
Marjorie Toward
Nigel Stevenson
Michael Higginson
James Silverward
Keith Ford

Adrian Smith Place Department
Derek Higon
Matthew Neal

AGENDA ORDER

The Chairman re-ordered the agenda to enable the public discussions of the East Midlands Freeport Outline Business Case item (agenda item 6) to immediately precede the discussions about the exempt appendix to this report (agenda item 12).

1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting of Policy Committee held on 15 July 2021, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Helen Ann-Smith – on other Nottinghamshire County Council business.

Councillor Kate Foale – other reasons

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

No interests were declared.

4 COVID-19 UPDATE REPORT

In response to a query raised by Members with reference to paragraph 18 of the report, officers agreed to write to clarify the total number of children eligible for supermarket vouchers compared to the actual number issued over the summer holidays.

RESOLVED: 2021/051

- 1) That the continuing efforts of services to ensure effective service provision as the country transitions to recovery be endorsed.
- 2) That further updates be considered by the relevant service committees.

5 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) PLACE PLANNING STRATEGY 2021-26

In response to a request from Members, the Leader agreed to discuss the need for a fairer funding formula on this issue with relevant Members and write to Central Government to make the case.

RESOLVED 2021/052

That the proposed Nottinghamshire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Place Planning Strategy for 2021-26 be approved.

6 DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL PLAN AND PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Arising from discussions, the following actions were agreed:

- those County Councillors who were also District or Borough Councillors were encouraged to share details of the consultation process (including The Big Notts. Survey) with other relevant, local organisations;
- officers agreed to provide a table containing a breakdown by District of the numbers of responses received.

RESOLVED 2021/053

- 1) That the emerging Council Plan vision and outcomes as set out in paragraph 8 of the committee report be noted.
- 2) That an engagement exercise be undertaken with partners in the early autumn, which alongside The Big Notts Survey, would inform the priorities in the Council Plan.

7 COUNTY COUNCILS NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021

In relation to this agenda item and the Outside Bodies Register Update Report item, Members raised concerns about how best to represent the views of, and share information with, both minority groups of the Council. In response, the Leader agreed to discuss that wider issue further with the Leaders of the Labour Group and the Independent Group.

RESOLVED: 2021/054

That approval be given for the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Main Minority Group and one Chief Officer to attend the County Councils Network Annual Conference in Marlow, Buckinghamshire from 21-23 November 2021, together with any necessary travel and accommodation arrangements.

8 OUTSIDE BODIES REGISTER UPDATE REPORT

RESOLVED: 2021/055

- 1) That the organisations listed in Appendix A to the committee report be removed from the Outside Bodies Register for the reasons outlined in the report.
- 2) That the addition of the East Midlands Freeport Board to the Register be endorsed.
- 3) That the updated Register as detailed in Appendix B be noted.

9 WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: 2021/056

That no amendments were required to the work programme.

10 EAST MIDLANDS FREEPORT OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

During discussions, Members requested that the details of any further changes made to the Outline Business Case at the East Midlands Freeport Board meeting due to be held on the afternoon of 2 September 2021 be shared with all Members.

RESOLVED: 2021/057

- 1) That the current draft of the East Midlands Freeport Outline Business Case be endorsed.
- 2) That subject to due consideration of the final draft, authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to endorse the Outline Business Case, ahead of submission to Government by 10 September 2021.
- 3) That a further report be submitted to Policy Committee to consider the Full Business Case and any implications for the County Council, should the bid be taken forward by Government.

11 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: 2021/058

That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the discussions were likely to involve disclosure of exempt information described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

12 EAST MIDLANDS FREEPORT OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE – EXEMPT APPENDIX

RESOLVED: 2021/059

That the contents of the draft East Midlands Freeport Outline Business Case be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.09 pm.

CHAIRMAN