

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

Wednesday, 13 March 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Nunn (Chair); Councillor Larratt (Deputy Chair); Councillors Eldred, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill and King

1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2019 were agreed and signed by the Leader.

3. INTENTION TO HOLD PART OF THE MEETING IN PRIVATE IF NECESSARY

The Leader explained that Item 11 (Sixfields – Update of the Judgement and Enforcement Issues) had been exempted under schedule 12A, Part 1, (3) of the Local Government Act 1972. A challenge to this had been received from the press, and would be discussed under Item 10.

4. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

6. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no issues arising from Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

7. BUDGET MONITORING - PERIOD 10

Councillor Eldred as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report and drew Members' attention to the Key Financial Indicators at section 3.2. Homelessness, which accounted for the majority of the overspend had been addressed in next year's budget.

Councillor Birch asked about the impact of the overspend on next year's budget. Councillor Eldred advised that this was being met from reserves, so the budget was not affected.

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 Cabinet noted the contents of the report and noted that future reports will set out the actions being taken by Corporate Management Board to address issues arising.
- 2.2 Cabinet noted the capital appraisals approved under delegation as set out in Appendix 1.

8. CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Councillor Nunn as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report outlining the proposed communications strategy.

Councillor Birch queried whether the strategy worked for opposition Councillors, since they

did not have a communications team to celebrate their achievements.

Following some discussion, it was noted that the work of the communications team was intended to strengthen the reputation of the Council as a whole, not to promote individual Councillors.

RESOLVED:

2.1 Cabinet approved the Communications Strategy 2019-20.

9. NORTHANTS WASTE PARTNERSHIP - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Councillor Hallam as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report providing an updated and revised version of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership Memorandum of Understanding.

RESOLVED:

2.1 Cabinet agreed to the adoption of the updated and revised Memorandum of Understanding relating to membership of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership.

2.2 Cabinet delegated to the Cabinet Member for the Environment the authority to sign the amended MoU.

10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Borough Secretary reported that he had received a document from the press which challenged the decision to hold Item 11 in private. He pointed out that NBC discussed items in public wherever possible. However in this instance a verbal update was being given to Cabinet which, if in the public domain, would likely result in legal privilege issues.

In answer to a question from the Leader, the Borough Secretary confirmed that there had been no pressure from any Member to discuss this item in private. It had been an officer decision, based on legal privilege issues.

The Leader moved that the public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that there was likely to be disclosure to them of such categories of exempt information as defined by Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 as listed against such items of business by reference to the appropriate paragraph of Schedule 12A to such Act.

The Motion was Carried.

11. SIXFIELDS - UPDATE OF THE JUDGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

This item was considered in private.

The meeting concluded at 6.50 pm