

## **EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Coltman VC Room at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

### **Present:**

Councillors M T Fitzpatrick (Chairman in the Chair), A A Chaudhry, D F Fletcher, R Hawkins and S Slater.

### **Officers Present:**

The Head of Environment and Corporate Services, the Chief Finance Officer, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer, the Head of Regeneration and Development, the Corporate and Commercial Manager, the Enterprise Manager, the Corporate and Commercial Manager and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L Walker and P Walker.

## **PART II**

### 99/24 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

### 100/24 **MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor A A Chaudhry		Councillor M T Fitzpatrick
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

### 101/24 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business prior to the commencement of the meeting.

### 102/24 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 was submitted for information.

**NOTED.**

103/24

**EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PRODUCTIVITY PLAN 2024/25**

The report of the Head of Chief Financial Officer/S151 Officer on the East Staffordshire Borough Council Productivity Plan was considered. Appendix 1: East Staffordshire Borough Council Productivity Plan 2024/25 had been circulated with the report.

Cabinet noted that Local Authority productivity plans were a new requirement introduced by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) as part of the local government settlement for 2024/25. There was no formal legislative power which required Council's to produce a Productivity Plan, however DLUHC had indicated that it intended to monitor plans, and funding settlements in future would be informed by performance against them. DLUHC had also not yet set out what penalties it may seek to impose if authorities failed to produce and submit a plan.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

That Cabinet endorse and approve the East Staffordshire Borough Council Productivity Plan 2024/25, attached at appendix 1 of the report and note that this would be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities by the required deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

104/24

**BROWNFIELD REGENERATION FRAMEWORK 2024**

The report of the Head of Regeneration and Development on the newly updated Brownfield Regeneration Framework 2024 and proposed approach to brownfield regeneration in East Staffordshire taking into account the renewed focus on social housing was considered.

The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

Appendix 1: Brownfield Regeneration Framework 2024;

Appendix 2: Equality and Health Impact Assessment.

Cabinet noted that the framework described the principles through which the Council would support the regeneration of brownfield land and property and how it may undertake direct or indirect regeneration of these sites, delivering both affordable and social housing in the process. The refreshed Brownfield Regeneration Framework 2024 took into account the latest relevant policy documents and acknowledged the difficulties in bringing forward Brownfield sites for regeneration, highlighting how the Council was well placed to

facilitate and enable the redevelopment of other providers, or by undertaking a more direct intervention whereby the Council would lead on the regeneration of the site in question. The Framework referred to the requirement for developers to pay the Council £40,000 per unit if they did not provide the required number of affordable housing units on their proposed development. The funding would be secured through a S106 agreement between the Council and the developer, with funds being ring-fenced so that they could only be used to alleviate the housing needs of the Borough under the conditions of each agreement. Some agreements may have specific conditions attached to how, where or by when the funding should be spent.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

That the Brownfield Regeneration framework 2024, superseding the Brownfield Regeneration Framework 2022, be approved.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

105/24

**QUARTER 4 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT**

The report of the Head of Finance on the 2023/24 Outturn for revenue and capital, providing the Council’s final spend as at Quarter 4 alongside an analysis of budget variances was considered.

The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

Appendix A: Year End outturn variances against budget

Appendix B: Investments at 31 March 2024

Appendix C: Detailed Mainstream Capital Programme by project at outturn

Appendix D: Detailed Towns Fund by Project at outturn

Appendix E: 2024/25 Approved Carry forwards

Appendix F: Corporate and Strategic Risks – Quarter 4 2023/24

Cabinet noted that the overall revenue budget variance against the net budget requirement of £15.640m was an underspend of £501k (this was after £492k of approved carry forwards into 2024/25). This underspend position was very similar to the position projected overall at Quarter 3, with a small positive movement of £80k.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

1) That in relation to the Revenue Outturn:

- a) the revenue outturn position for 2023/24 be noted;

- b) the transfer of the final 2023/24 underspend into the General Fund balance be approved;
  - c) the approved budget carry forward items totalling £492k, set out in Appendix E be noted;
  - d) the revenue funding re-alignments to UKSPF set out at section 8 of the report be approved.
- 2) That in relation to the Capital Outturn:
- a) the capital outturn position for 2023/24 be noted;
  - b) the proposed Capital Programme reprofiling, which will carry forward into 2024/25 £1.265m budgeted expenditure for the mainstream programme; and £1.823m for the Towns Fund be approved;
  - c) the proposed capital funding re-alignments for UKSPF projects set out at section 8 of the report be approved;
- 3) That the position in relation to the Council's investments and borrowings as at 31st March 2024 be noted;
- 4) That the risks facing the authority and associated mitigations and control measures in place as outlined in Appendix F be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

106/24

#### **QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE REPORT – CORPORATE PLAN, LEISURE AND TOWN'S FUND**

The report of the Head of Environment and Corporate Services on the performance update on progress at the end of the fourth quarter of the 2023/24 financial year towards delivering the Corporate Plan; Leisure Services Contract Performance and the Towns Fund Programme was considered. Appendix 1 End of year Corporate Plan Performance Updates 2023/24 had been circulated with the report.

Cabinet noted that out of the 132 indicators in total for the three corporate priorities 122 were green status; 2 were amber status; 6 were red status and 2 had previously been deleted and of the 130 'live' targets: 93.85% were green status; 1.54% were amber status and 4.62% were red status. Cabinet noted that overall the Leisure Operator continued to be compliant with the services specification. At the end of Quarter 4 a review of the scorecard's RAG ratings for the Key Performance Indicators showed statuses as follows; 75 Green, 1 Amber, and 2 Red. The report also provided an update on the Towns Fund programme as of 2023-24 Q4, summarising project progress, key risks,

current financial profiles, and total spend and commitment claims for three projects: Canal Towpath Project (£157,821.28) Cycle Network Enhancements (£1,063,788.19) and the Specialist College Project (£3,502,278).

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

That the 2024-25 targets for COM27 and COM28 as detailed in Table 4 of the report be agreed.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

107/24

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:**

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor S Slater		

