

Public Document Pack

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **Councillors Commission** held in the virtually by TEAMS on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 at 5.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor R Blaney (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs R Crowe, Councillor P Harris, Councillor Mrs L Hurst,
Councillor J Kellas and Councillor P Peacock

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Mrs L Dales (Committee Member)

46 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2021

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no declarations of interest.

48 UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH NEW GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Executive presented a report which updated Members on progress made by the Governance Review Working Party on the new Governance Arrangements. The report referred to the principles upon which the structure would be based; proposals for five portfolio holders and the Cabinet; the proposed Policy & Performance Improvement Committee; the working groups which would fall under these and the proposals for the rest of the governance structure.

The report also set out next steps, which included the Scheme of Delegation; the role of Members and the training and support which would be made available.

During the debate, the Commission raised the following points which it felt required further review / clarification:

- The proposed resource for the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee including officer support to the Committee and working groups. The Commission also referred to the same officers supporting this Committee and also advising Cabinet which would not be appropriate;
- It was suggested that the proposal to have four scheduled meetings of the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee may not be sufficient so further meetings may need to be convened;
- It was questions whether offering voting rights to the Leader of the Main Opposition on the Cabinet would be appropriate and asked what value this would bring;
- Proposals for the access to membership of the proposed working groups and the openness of the information being presented to these bodies;
- The potential for some form of area committee structure should also be

considered.

AGREED (unanimously) that progress made to date in respect of the proposed new governance arrangements be noted and the feedback from the Commission be reported to the next meeting of the Governance Review Working Party.

49 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

The Business Manager - Elections & Democratic Services presented a draft timetable for a further review by the Independent Remuneration Panel. This review would be able to account for the changes to the governance arrangements to be effective as from May 2022. He added that a report would be submitted to the Full Council Meeting on 12 October to reconvene the Panel.

AGREED (unanimously) that the draft timetable for the further review of Members Allowances by the Independent Remuneration Panel be noted.

Meeting closed at 5.57 pm.

Chairman