

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

PRESENT: Councillor S E Ralphs MBE (Chair)

Councillors M Bowen, A Forrester, T Hall, D Ogden, S Scalise and E Wain

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor B Cawley

16 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2018 were approved.

17 **FORWARD PLAN**

DECISION: That the Forward Plan for the period September to November 2018 be approved for publication.

18 **BUSINESS RATES RETENTION PILOT AND POOLING ARRANGEMENTS**

The purpose of the report was to update members on the implications of the 75% Business Rates Retention pilots proposed for 2019/20 and to seek approval for the submission of an expression of interest. The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 3 October 2018.

Options considered:

There were no options to consider as the terms of the pilot were specific.

DECISION:

1. That the changes to the criteria to be a 75% Business Rates pilot in 2019/20 be noted.
2. That the Council's submission in conjunction with the other eleven Staffordshire authorities be noted.

19 **IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT TEAN ROAD RECREATION GROUND, CHEADLE**

The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the progress of identified improvement projects at Tean Road Recreation Ground, Cheadle and seek approval to allocate capital funds to match the existing allocated s106 funds, to support the delivery of the improvement projects working with the Town Council.

Options considered:

As detailed in section 5 of the report.

DECISION:

Cabinet - 9 October 2018

1. That the recent developments at Tean Road Recreation Ground, and the proposed additional projects to be delivered this year be noted.
2. That the continuation of the improvement projects at Tean Road through the allocation of additional Council capital funding to ensure their delivery be approved.

20 **ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME**

The report provided an update on environmental enforcement and proposed changes to the levels of the fixed penalty notices set by the Council. The report was considered by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 1 October 2018. Councillor Cawley raised issues relating to the Council working with the Police and landlords and also referred to instances of graffiti and the dumping of bulky items in Leek South and Leek West Wards. It was reported that contact is made with landlords where required and that the Council liaises very closely with Staffordshire Police to share information and identify problem hotspots.

Options considered:

The Council was able to set its fixed penalty notice charges within certain statutory bands governing maximum and minimum levels. The maximum full penalties for littering, graffiti, fly-posting and unauthorised distribution of free printed matter had been increased from £75 up to £150. The minimum permitted early payment discount charge (the "lesser penalty") was being increased from £50 to £65 from 1st April 2019.

It was proposed that the Council adopted a fixed penalty amount of £150 for each offence to deter environmental crime.

It was also proposed that the Council set the 'lesser amount' at £100 if paid within 10 days to encourage early payment.

DECISION:

1. That the content of the report be noted.
2. That the proposed changes to the fixed penalty payments and arrangements be approved.

21 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That, pursuant to Section 100A(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings whereby it is likely that confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act would be disclosed to the public in breach of the obligation of confidence or exempt information as defined in Section 100 I (1) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed to the public by virtue of the Paragraphs indicated.

Cabinet - 9 October 2018

SUMMARY OF EXEMPT ITEMS

22 **ALLIANCE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - PHASE 3 TRANSFER OF SERVICES**

The Cabinet approved a report the purpose of which was to agree the process for the transfer of further Council functions (street cleansing and grounds maintenance) to Alliance Environmental Services (AES).

The meeting closed at 2.32 pm

_____Chairman