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Agenda and Reports
for the meeting of
THE COUNTY COUNCIL
to be held on
13 DECEMBER 2022

Woodhatch Place
Reigate
Surrey

Friday, 2 December 2022

TO THE MEMBERS OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Council to be held at Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8EF, on Tuesday, 13 December 2022, beginning at 10.00 am, for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the Agenda set out overleaf.

JOANNA KILLIAN
Chief Executive

***Note 1:** For those Members wishing to participate, Prayers will be said at 9.50am. The Reverend Martin Colton, Vicar of St Mark's Church, Reigate, has kindly consented to officiate. If any Members wish to take time for reflection, meditation, alternative worship or other such practice prior to the start of the meeting, alternative space can be arranged on request by contacting Democratic Services.*

There will be a very short interval between the conclusion of Prayers and the start of the meeting to enable those Members and Officers who do not wish to take part in Prayers to enter the Council Chamber and join the meeting.

***Note 2:** This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes within the Council.*

Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the representative of Legal and Democratic Services at the meeting.

If you would like a copy of this agenda or the attached papers in another format, e.g. large print or braille, or another language please either call Democratic Services on 020 8541 9122, or write to Democratic Services, Surrey County Council at Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8EF, Minicom 020 8541 9698, fax 020 8541 9009, or email amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk

This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact Amelia Christopher on 07929 725663 or via the email address above.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair to report apologies for absence.

2 MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 October 2022.

(Pages
11 - 54)

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter

- (i) Any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or
- (ii) Other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at this meeting

NOTES:

- Members are reminded that they must not participate in any item where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest
- As well as an interest of the Member, this includes any interest, of which the Member is aware, that relates to the Member's spouse or civil partner (or any person with whom the Member is living as a spouse or civil partner)
- Members with a significant personal interest may participate in the discussion and vote on that matter unless that interest could be reasonably regarded as prejudicial.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

Welcome everyone to our last Council meeting of 2022!

I would like to thank you all for your dedication and hard work over the past twelve months to assist our residents and make Surrey an even better place in which to live and work. It has been a very challenging year for many of our residents and unfortunately, circumstances are likely to get even harder for some time yet.

I know, however, that together with our excellent officers in Surrey County Council (SCC), we will continue to do our very best and deliver for our residents.

Stars in Surrey Awards

Which leads me on nicely to the 'Stars in Surrey' Awards – SCC's inaugural awards to recognise and celebrate the efforts and successes of individuals and teams across the council, as well as our partners and heroes in our communities. I had the privilege of sitting on the judging panel which was both awe-inspiring and humbling.

There were a staggering 450 nominations across the length and breadth of the service and county; the commitment, passion and expertise of all those nominated was exceptional.

I would like to take this opportunity to say again a huge and heart-felt 'thank you' to all our winners and nominees. How lucky we are to have you.

Act of Remembrance

On 11 November it was my honour to hold a short Act of Remembrance in the memorial garden at Woodhatch Place. I was joined by Joanna Killian, Chief Executive, members of the Royal British Legion, serving military personnel, members of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and Members and officers of SCC.

Along with millions of people throughout the country, we paused at 11 o'clock to remember all those who fought and gave their lives in two World Wars - and many other conflicts since - in the service of our country, its values and its freedoms. We paid tribute to the brave soldiers of Ukraine as they continue their fight for freedom. Our thoughts and prayers remain steadfast with the people of Ukraine.

Members Allocation

Over the past year, it has been my honour and privilege to visit a great number of charities throughout Surrey who do the most wonderful things to help and support our most vulnerable residents.

I have visited, supported and donated to many phenomenal charities this year – The Rainbow Trust, Surrey Search & Rescue, Transform Housing, Surplus for Supper, The Brain Tumour Trust, Surrey War Widows, What Next, LeatherHEAD Start, Dorking Men's Shed – to name but a few.

Many charities are struggling with fewer donations which, of course, now need to go a lot further.

With that in mind, this is a friendly reminder that the deadline for spending your Members' Allocation is fast approaching – 31 January next year. Any requests submitted after this time will not be met and any monies leftover will not be carried forward into the next financial year. There are so many deserving causes in your areas; please ensure that you spend your allocation on these worthwhile charities.

Merry Christmas!

On that note, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I wish you all a well-deserved break over the festive period. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year to continue our vital work for the people of Surrey.

5 LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader to make a statement.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions and/or make comments.

6 ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chief Executive formally to report the election of a new County Councillor:

Harry Boparai for the Sunbury Common and Ashford Common division at the by-election held on 30 November 2022.

7 CHANGES TO CABINET PORTFOLIOS AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

(Pages
55 - 64)

Council is asked to note the Leader's changes to Cabinet Portfolios.

Council is asked to approve chairman and vice-chairman appointments and to note a number of further appointments to vacant committee seats.

8 REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY

For Council to review and adopt the revised scheme of proportionality for the remainder of the 2022/23 Council Year.

(Note: report to follow).

9 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

1. The Leader of the Council or the appropriate Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee to answer any questions on any matter relating to the powers and duties of the County Council, or which affects the county.

(Note: Notice of questions in respect of the above item on the agenda must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Wednesday 7 December 2022).

2. Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios.

These will be circulated by email to all Members prior to the County Council meeting, together with the Members' questions and responses.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions.

10 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Any Member may make a statement at the meeting on a local issue of current or future concern.

(Note: Notice of statements must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 12 December 2022).

11 ORIGINAL MOTIONS

Item 11 (i)

Robert Evans (Stanwell and Stanwell Moor) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

- The number of pupils entitled to free school meals in Surrey is rising steadily and that more families than ever are becoming reliant on food banks.
- The cost-of-living crisis will lead to a general deepening of health inequalities among children and 'being hungry' in the school day will have a detrimental impact on their education.
- Research by the Child Poverty Action Group has shown that the cohort most vulnerable to food poverty is families who are on very low incomes, but who do not qualify for free school meals because their annual household earnings (excluding benefits) exceed £7,400.
- The Government previously rejected the recommendation of its own independently commissioned National Food Strategy, published in 2021 that it should increase the threshold for free school meals up to £20,000, this being the minimum income required for people to afford to feed a family.
- The Government's Food Strategy (June 2022) states it "will continue to keep free school meal eligibility under review, to ensure that these meals are supporting those who most need them."

The Council further notes that:

- The Council has used £2.27m of its Household Support Grant to continue providing food vouchers to eligible children over October, December and February school holidays, as well as other measures to help the most vulnerable families.

This Council believes that:

- Free school meals should be a basic right for all children who need them and therefore supports the expansion of free school meals provision to every child whose family is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent, or with a low-income.
- Provision be made for food vouchers to cover school holidays for all families in receipt of Universal Credit or with low-income.

This Council resolves to call upon the Cabinet to:

- I. Look at every possible way in which the Council can do more to assist children in need and to extend the provision of free school meals.

- II. Write to the Chancellor the Exchequer, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Surrey's ten other MPs and the Secretary of State for Education Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP, seeking their support for this aim.

- 12 SELECT COMMITTEES' REPORT TO COUNCIL** (Pages 65 - 68)
- For Members to note the headline activity of the Council's overview and scrutiny function in the period September to November 2022 asking questions of Scrutiny Chairs as necessary.
- 13 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL - ELECTORAL REVIEW COUNCIL SIZE SUBMISSION** (Pages 69 - 96)
- To approve Surrey County Council's (SCC) submission regarding future council size, as part of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) electoral review process.
- 14 FEEDBACK FROM THE RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE ON A REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL - 'MOTION ON PROCUREMENT POLICY, TAX AVOIDANCE AND THE FAIR TAX MARK'** (Pages 97 - 112)
- To provide feedback from the Resources and Performance Select Committee on the Council motion titled 'procurement policy, tax avoidance and the fair tax mark' as requested by the Council.
- 15 APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL** (Pages 113 - 114)
- To agree the arrangements for the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) to review the existing Members' Allowances Scheme prior to 2024.
- 16 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION** (Pages 115 - 138)
- It is the Council's responsibility to approve changes to the Council's Constitution.
- This report sets out proposed changes to Part 4 of the Constitution – Standing Orders, and the Officer Code of Conduct, one of the Codes and Protocols included in Part 6 of the Constitution and these are brought to Council for formal approval in accordance with Articles 4.09, 5.02 and 11.02 of the Council's Constitution.
- 17 REPORT OF THE CABINET** (Pages 139 - 144)
- To receive the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 25 October 2022 and 29 November 2022.
- 18 MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS** (Pages 145 - 158)
- Any matters within the minutes of the Cabinet's meetings, and not otherwise brought to the Council's attention in the Cabinet's report, may be the subject of questions and statements by Members upon notice being given to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 12 December 2022.

(Note: To follow: Minutes, Cabinet - 29 November 2022)

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AND FILMING – ACCEPTABLE USE

Those attending for the purpose of reporting on the meeting may use social media or mobile devices in silent mode to send electronic messages about the progress of the public parts of the meeting. To support this, Woodhatch Place has wifi available for visitors – please ask at reception for details.

Anyone is permitted to film, record or take photographs at council meetings. Please liaise with the council officer listed in the agenda prior to the start of the meeting so that those attending the meeting can be made aware of any filming taking place.

Use of mobile devices, including for the purpose of recording or filming a meeting, is subject to no interruptions, distractions or interference being caused to the PA or Induction Loop systems, or any general disturbance to proceedings. The Chair may ask for mobile devices to be switched off in these circumstances.

It is requested that if you are not using your mobile device for any of the activities outlined above, it be switched off or placed in silent mode during the meeting to prevent interruptions and interference with PA and Induction Loop systems.

Thank you for your co-operation