



**Spelthorne
Borough Council**

Council Meeting
Thursday, 14 July 2022



6 July 2022

Please reply to:

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To the Councillors of Spelthorne Borough Council

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at The Council's Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames on **Thursday, 14 July 2022** commencing at **7.00 pm** for the transaction of the following business.

Daniel Mouawad
Chief Executive

Councillors are encouraged to wear their badge of past office at the Council meeting.

For those Councillors wishing to participate, prayers will be said in the Mayor's office, starting at 6.45pm. Please email mayor@spelthorne.gov.uk if you wish to attend.

Councillors are reminded to notify Committee Services of any Gifts and Hospitality offered to you since the last Council meeting so that these may be entered in the Gifts and Hospitality Declaration book.

AGENDA

Description	Page nos.
<p>1. Minute's silence for Richard Smith-Ainsley</p> <p>The Council will observe one minute's silence in memory of Richard 'Dick' Smith-Ainsley.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies for absence</p> <p>To receive any apologies for non-attendance.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 May 2022.</p>	9 - 20
<p>4. Disclosures of Interest</p> <p>To receive any disclosures of interest from Councillors in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.</p>	
<p>5. Announcements from the Mayor</p> <p>To receive any announcements from the Mayor.</p>	
<p>6. Announcements from the Leader</p> <p>To receive any announcements from the Leader.</p>	
<p>7. Announcements from the Chief Executive</p> <p>To receive any announcements from the Chief Executive.</p>	
<p>8. Questions from members of the public</p> <p>The Leader, or his nominee, to answer any questions raised by members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 13.</p>	21 - 22
<p>9. Petitions</p> <p>To receive any petitions from members of the public.</p>	
<p>10. Civic Engagement Platform</p> <p>To consider a recommendation from the Administrative Committee.</p> <p><i>To follow.</i></p>	
<p>11. Minor changes to the constitution</p> <p>This report seeks to make minor amendments to the Constitution in relation to:</p>	23 - 62

- a) senior staff appointments;
- b) membership requirements of the Development Sub-Committee and Administrative Committee; and
- c) the Substitution Scheme at Part 4c of the Constitution

12. Membership of the Development Sub-Committee

To appoint members of the Development Sub-Committee (subject to Council's agreement of minor changes to the constitution) for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.

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The nominations from group leaders are attached.

13. Appointment of named substitutes to Development Sub-Committee

To appoint named substitutes to the Development Sub-Committee (subject to Council's agreement of minor changes to the constitution) for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.

To follow.

14. Report from the Leader of the Council

To receive the report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 11 July 2022.

To follow.

15. Report from the Chair of the Administrative Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Administrative Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 7 July 2022.

To follow.

16. Report from the Chair of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has not met since the last Council.

17. Report from the Chair of the Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 14 June 2022.

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18. Report from the Chair of the Economic Development Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Economic Development Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 9 June 2022.

67 - 68

19. Report from the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability

Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee on the work of the Committee at its meetings on 10 May 2022 and 5 July 2022. 69 - 72

20. Report from the Chair of the Licensing Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Licensing Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 12 July 2022.

The Licensing Sub-Committee has not met since the last Council meeting.

To follow.

21. Report from the Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 30 June 2022. 73 - 74

22. Report from the Chair of the Planning Committee

To receive the report from the Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee on the work of the Committee at its meetings on 27 April 2022, 1 June 2022 and 29 June 2022. 75 - 76

23. Report from the Chair of the Standards Committee

To receive the report from the Chair of the Standards Committee on the work of the Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2022. 77 - 78

24. Motions

To receive any motions from Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 16.

Motion 1

Proposed by Councillor Sinead Mooney
Seconded by Councillor John Boughtflower

“In the Staines Development Framework and Local Plan currently out for consultation, reference is made to the implementation of a zoning area along the riverfront and for the Staines conservation area. Whilst reference is made to exemptions it is more than likely that these will be considered through the business as usual process.

If the inspector agrees to any zonings within the local plan, this council agrees that the decision making relating to the development of its assets will be of the highest standard, transparent, and that any planning application the council submits for its own assets be fully compliant with all statutory and legal requirements as may be applicable at the relevant time(s).”

25. General questions

The Leader, or his nominee, to answer questions from Councillors on matters affecting the Borough, in accordance with Standing Order 14.

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26. Appointment of a representative Trustee

To consider the appointment of trustees to the following organisations:

Staines Parochial Society

The Staines Parochial Society has asked that the following individuals be re-appointed for a further term of four years:

1. Denise Turner-Stewart
2. Nick Wood-Dow

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MINUTES OF THE SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Spelthorne Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames on Thursday, 26 May 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillor I.T.E. Harvey, The Mayor, in the Chair

Councillors:

S.M. Doran	R. Chandler	S.C. Mooney
D. Saliagopoulos	J.T.F. Doran	L. E. Nichols
M.M. Attewell	R.D. Dunn	R.J. Noble
C.F. Barnard	S.A. Dunn	O. Rybinski
C.L. Barratt	T. Fidler	J.R. Sexton
R.O. Barratt	N.J. Gething	R.W. Sider BEM
C. Bateson	M. Gibson	V. Siva
I.J. Beardsmore	K.M. Grant	R.A. Smith-Ainsley
M. Beecher	A.C. Harman	B.B. Spoor
J.R. Boughtflower	H. Harvey	J. Vinson
A. Brar	N. Islam	S.J Whitmore
S. Buttar	V.J. Leighton	
J. Button	A.J. Mitchell	

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillor T. Lagden

At the meeting on 8 June 2022

Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillors J. Button, R.W. Sider BEM, C.F. Barnard, R. Chandler, S. Buttar, A.C. Harman, N. Islam

A minute's silence was observed in remembrance of the 50th Anniversary of the Staines Air Crash.

69/22 Election of the Mayor

The retiring Mayor, Councillor ITE Harvey, welcomed all members and guests to the Annual Meeting of the Council and invited Father S. King to say a word of prayer.

The Mayor gave a thank you speech as follows:

“It was a great honour to be elected Mayor one year ago tonight, and it has been a real privilege for the Mayoress and I to have represented Spelthorne over the last year. We have attended events in Borough, further afield in Surrey, and visited our twin town of Melun, France last October. We have sought to be ambassadors for the borough.

There is no doubt that my Mayoral year has been very much of two halves. The first half was made much more difficult by the remnants of COVID with many reluctant to host or attend events, ongoing restrictions, last minute cancellations, and even my own pre-Christmas church service being postponed at short notice. The highlight of the autumn was undoubtedly our civic trip to Melun in France during which I was made a ‘Chevalier du Brie de Melun’ – basically a ‘big cheese’! I understand previous mayors have enjoyed similar honour, if one can put it that way. I know my predecessor Cllr Barnard is also a ‘big cheese’.

We have cut ribbons and opened buildings, an outside gym, a river jetty, planted trees, attended various church services, receptions and other events and consumed quite a number of glasses of Prosecco.

My postponed Mayor’s church service took place in late February and the reception afterwards was at London Irish Rugby Club in Sunbury, and visitor Mayors were very impressed with the facilities.

We have hosted a fantastic ABBA tribute night in March and two other Surrey mayors have separately told me that it was the best event of **their** mayoral year.

Also in March, Jaguar Land Rover in Sunbury very kindly hosted a very successful business reception for us where over 60 attended, and well-known hotelier and philanthropist Surinder Arora was the main speaker.

The Spring Blossom Mayor’s Charity Ball was held a month ago at the newly refurbished Holiday Inn Shepperton. Turnout was excellent and appeared to be enjoyed by all. The dance floor was still full at twenty past midnight. Many businesses that I had previously worked with while Leader were generous, and as well as covering the significant cost of the live entertainment and disco, contributed prizes which together with private raffle prize donations enabled us to raise many thousands.

The final fundraising event we hosted was the Mayoress’ Ladies Film and Fizz Afternoon, which I was banned from attending, two weeks ago in the Korda Theatre at Shepperton Studios. They enjoyed viewing the latest version of West Side Story and obviously more Prosecco. Shepperton Studios kindly paid for everything, so all ticket sales as well as the inevitable raffle went direct to our charity fund.

When deciding on our charities, the Mayoress and I wanted to make a real difference to those young people in our borough experiencing significant challenges and crisis in their mental health, so we chose two charities whose focus is on bringing direct help to those particular needy young people. It is a terrible fact that modern day pressures on young people are having a very significant and rapidly growing impact on their mental health and their life prospects, some finding no reason for hope and tragically some do not make it to adulthood.

We chose east2west and Ashford Youth Centre.

East2west currently provide counselling support in each of our borough's six secondary schools.

The significant donation is being allocated to boost their service offering with additional peripatetic counselling provision which will deliver 220 counselling sessions for specialist therapeutic intervention and will be made available whilst a young person is awaiting CAMHS support. This will hopefully cover the demand for this service for between one and a half and two years across our secondary schools.

The donation will also be supporting and growing their 'Emerge' project at St. Peter's Hospital where volunteers support our teenagers presenting and or admitted with self-harm and suicidal ideation.

Ashford Youth & Community Centre have pledged to use their donation:

- To pay for counselling sessions for individual, to run parent conferences on mental health first aid to equip parent with the basics of managing emerging mental health challenges with their sons and daughters.
- To deliver bespoke mental health courses for members of the community working with young people directly – youth workers, school LSA's, sports coaches so they can react and support young people.
- And to develop and deliver a peer education mental health first aid course training for young people to support their peers which we hope can be rolled out across the borough.

I was also able to make more modest donations to the cadet sections of each branch of our armed forces as well as a boxing academy who also do great work with our young people, especially those more marginalised.

In total, I awarded £34,000 at the Mayor's Charity Giving Evening last Friday. In the circumstances, I was delighted to have achieved this sum.

I now need to thank those who have helped and supported me this year. Firstly, I wish to thank our Chief Executive Daniel and his Executive Office team, Jennifer, Dawn and Julia for their support and guidance. Also I am grateful for the support of my Mayor's Chaplain, Father Andrew Downes, who

is unfortunately unable to be here tonight. I would like to thank Councillors Brar and Rybinski who have helped to make our mayoral term so fulfilling.

I would also like to thank Tracey Carter for her invaluable efforts with promoting our events to businesses and the wider community and via the Spelthorne Business Forum.

Thank you also to those Councillors who have supported me in attending our events this year.

However, the greatest appreciation and thanks goes to the two ladies who have influenced my life so much over the last few months. I refer of course to Sheila, my Mayoral Manager, who I have already mentioned, and also to my wife Helen, the Mayoress.

Sheila has worked tirelessly, and without Sheila my Mayoral year simply would not have been the success it has been. I know that one day in particular, or perhaps more accurately, one night, in the run-up to the Ball, she was busy e-mailing at 3.30 in the morning. Helen has worked closely with Sheila, bringing her years of corporate business and marketing skills to the role. Collectively they have delivered what I genuinely believe to have been the best Mayoral events programme across Surrey this year. Without you both it simply would not have happened. Thank you.

Fellow members, thank you for allowing me to be your Mayor for the last year and I wish my successor the very best."

It was moved by Councillor Beardsmore and seconded by Councillor Nichols that Councillor Sue Doran be appointed Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

Resolved that Councillor Sue Doran be appointed Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

A short adjournment took place to hand over the robes and badge of Office to the new Mayor.

Councillor Sue Doran made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Mayor of the Borough of Spelthorne and took the Chair. She presented Councillor Ian Harvey with his past Mayor's badge.

[Councillor S.M. Doran, The Mayor, in the chair.]

The Mayor invited the retiring Mayoress, Councillor Helen Harvey, to present her consort with the Mayor's consort badge. The Mayor then invited her consort, Councillor John Doran, to present Councillor Helen Harvey with the past Mayoress's badge.

70/22 Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 April 2022 and of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 19 May 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

71/22 Disclosures of interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

72/22 Election of the Deputy Mayor

It was moved by Councillor Bateson and seconded by Councillor Sexton that Councillor Saliagopoulos be appointed Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

It was moved by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Boughtflower that Councillor Buttar be appointed Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

Resolved that Councillor Denise Saliagopoulos be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

Councillor Saliagopoulos made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Spelthorne and announced that her husband would be the Deputy Mayor's Consort. The Mayor presented Councillor Saliagopoulos with the Deputy Mayor's badge.

The outgoing Deputy Mayor's Consort, Councillor John Doran, presented the Deputy Mayor's Consort Badge to the Deputy Mayor's Consort.

73/22 Announcements from the Mayor

The Mayor thanked everyone for their support and trust in electing her as Mayor. She explained she had worked in the NHS for 36 years and had gained wide experience in all aspects of health and communities.

The Mayor announced that her Chaplain for the Municipal Year would be Father Stuart King of St. Matthew's, Ashford and St. Mary's, Stanwell and presented him with his Chaplain's badge.

The Mayor announced Spelthorne Mental Health Association and the Stanwell Family Centre as her charities. She expressed a desire to help residents of all ages in regard to their mental health. She advised that a number of mayoral events had been planned and details would be released in the near future.

74/22 Election of the Leader of the Council

It was moved by Councillor Ian Harvey and seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Councillor Boughtflower be appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

It was moved by Councillor Saliagopoulos and seconded by Councillor Smith-Ainsley that Councillor Sexton be appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

A recorded vote was conducted, as requested by Councillor Ian Harvey, with the results as follows:

For Councillor Boughtflower (19):

Councillors: Attewell, Barnard, C Barratt, R Barratt, Beardsmore, Boughtflower, Brar, Buttar, Chandler, Gething, Harman, H Harvey, I Harvey, Islam, Leighton, Mitchell, Mooney, Rybinski, and Sider

For Councillor Sexton (18):

Councillors: Bateson, Beecher, Button, J Doran, S Doran, R Dunn, S Dunn, Fidler, Gibson, Grant, Nichols, Saliagopoulos, Sexton, Siva, Smith-Ainsley, Spoor, Vinson, and Whitmore

Abstain (1):

Councillor Noble

Resolved that Councillor John Boughtflower be appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

75/22 Announcements from the Leader

The Leader made the following announcements:

“Firstly, I would like to welcome Cllr Stuart Whitmore who this week was elected to represent the Laleham and Shepperton Green ward. Many congratulations on your election – I look forward to working with you.

At an Extraordinary Council Meeting on 19 May, councillors voted to progress the Local Plan and Staines Development Framework to the next consultation phase. Whilst the Plan will deliver many positives for the Borough in terms of affordable housing, new infrastructure and responding to the climate emergency, it has been a very difficult challenge to balance these benefits against the high number of new homes the Government expects us to deliver. Ultimately, the Council feels that not having an up-to-date Local Plan runs the bigger risk of not being able to defend our most precious green spaces against unwanted development. The online consultation will begin on Wednesday 15 June and run until Monday 5 September.

This summer we will be asking residents for their views on several residential developments in Spelthorne, through a series of consultations. This includes proposals for affordable homes at The White House in Ashford, Benwell House phase 2 in Sunbury, Thameside House in Staines, Ashford multi storey car park and 91 – 93 Staines High Street. Plans to also build a new medical centre and 182 affordable homes for residents on the Oast House site next to Staines station have taken a step forward after Council voted to approve to progress to the planning application phase. The scheme forms part of the Staines Development Framework which residents will have an opportunity to

comment on during the summer months. Details of how to respond to all the consultations will be communicated to residents soon, please keep looking at our dedicated consultation page on our website.

The Council has begun a six-week consultation with residents as part of a review of the Staines Conservation Area, which runs until Friday 24 June. This is the first review of eight conservation areas which include proposals to extend the boundaries in some places and remove areas where the designation is no longer justified.

At the end of April, the Council was informed by the Home Office that The Stanwell Hotel would be used to accommodate asylum seekers while their claims for sanctuary and protection in the UK are being assessed. This is a private arrangement between the Home Office and the hotel, which has now to the public. In the last few months, this authority has seen the heart-warming way in which our community has stood by the people of both Afghanistan and Ukraine, and it is hoped that asylum seekers will receive an equally warm welcome from residents.

Following a consultation, the Council has taken the step of expanding its Dog Control Public Space Protection Order. Dog owners are now required to carry bags or other suitable means to clear up after their dogs, and to place their dogs on a lead in a public area if required to do so by an authorised officer. Restrictions have also been placed on the number of dogs which professional dog walkers are allowed to walk at one time.

Finally, plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday are gathering pace. There will be lots of events taking place in Spelthorne, including themed picnics in Lammas, Laleham and Fordbridge parks. Residents can check our website and social media for more details. I hope you have a wonderful extended bank holiday and have the chance to come along to one of our events or join one of the many street parties taking place across the Borough."

76/22 Election of Deputy Leader of the Council

It was moved by Councillor Ian Harvey and seconded by Councillor Boughtflower that Councillor Tony Mitchell be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

Resolved that Councillor Tony Mitchell be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2022-2023.

77/22 Establishment of committees - 2022-23

a Establishment of committees and sub-committees

The Mayor explained that Council on 28 April 2022 agreed the committees and sub-committees including the number of available seats on each.

Resolved to note the committees and sub-committees including the number of available seats on each.

- b Allocation of seats on committees and sub-committees

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

The Mayor explained that as Group Leaders had not reached an agreement on allocation of seats to committees and sub-committees, the meeting would be adjourned to enable group leaders to continue their discussions.

When the meeting reconvened, Council agreed that the order of the agenda be amended in accordance with Standing Order 17. (c) to consider elements of the agenda where agreement between group leaders had been reached.

[The dates on which resolutions were reached is noted below.]

At the meeting on 8 June 2022

Resolved to note the proportionality calculations, as published in the supplementary agenda.

Resolved to agree the allocation of seats to Committees and Sub-Committees as published in the supplementary agenda.

- c Appointment of members to committees and sub-committees

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

The Mayor explained that as a Planning Committee meeting was scheduled for 1 June 2022, Group Leaders were proposing a temporary membership for that meeting.

Resolved that the following members be appointed to the Planning Committee on 1 June 2022:

Councillors: Jon Button, Amar Brar, Olivia Rybinski, Robin Sider BEM, Michele Gibson, Nick Gething (Vice-Chair), Sati Buttar, Richard Smith-Ainsley (Chair), Helen Harvey, Bernie Spoor, Malcolm Beecher and Jenny Vinson.

At the meeting on 8 June 2022

Resolved to appoint members to committees and sub-committees as set out in the supplementary agenda.

- d Appointment of chairs and vice-chairs to committees and sub-committees

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

The Mayor explained that Group Leaders had put forward their nominations for Chairmanships for Committees for the 2022/23 municipal year but as there were several nominations, a vote would need to be taken.

Corporate Policy and Resources

Resolved to appoint Councillor John Boughtflower as Chairman of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Tony Mitchell as Vice-Chairman of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

Community Wellbeing and Housing

Two nominations had been received for Chairman of Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee: Councillor Sandra Dunn and Councillor Maureen Attewell.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor Maureen Attewell as Chairman of the Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee.

Two nominations had been received for Vice-Chairman of Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee: Councillor Sandra Dunn and Councillor Helen Harvey.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor Helen Harvey as Vice-Chairman of Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee.

Economic Development

Resolved to appoint Councillor Colin Barnard as Chairman of the Economic Development Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Tom Fidler as Vice-Chairman of Economic Development Committee

Environment and Sustainability

Two nominations had been received for Chairman of Environment and Sustainability Committee: Councillor Ian Beardsmore and Councillor Malcolm Beecher.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor Malcolm Beecher as Chairman of the Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Ian Beardsmore as Vice-

Chairman of Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Neighbourhood Services and Enforcement

Two nominations had been received for Chairman of Neighbourhood Services and Enforcement Committee: Councillor Helen Harvey and Councillor Joanne Sexton.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor Joanne Sexton as Chairman of Neighbourhood Services and Enforcement Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor John Doran as Vice-Chairman of Neighbourhood Services and Enforcement Committee.

Administrative

Resolved to appoint Councillor Naz Islam as Chairman of Administrative Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Sandra Dunn as Vice-Chair of the Administrative Committee.

Audit

Two nominations had been received for Chairman of Audit Committee: Councillor Richard Barratt and Councillor Lawrence Nichols.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor Lawrence Nichols as Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Richard Barratt as Vice-Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Licensing

Resolved to appoint Councillor Robin Sider BEM as Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Olivia Rybinski as Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

Planning

Two nominations had been received for Chairman of the Planning Committee: Councillor Nick Gething and Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley.

A vote was taken, and Council **resolved** to appoint Councillor

Richard Smith-Ainsley as Chairman of Planning Committee.

Resolved to appoint Councillor Nick Gething as Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee.

Standards

Resolved to appoint Ian Winter as Independent Chairman of the Standards Committee.

Resolved to appoint Dylan Price as Independent Vice-Chairman of Standards Committee.

At the meeting on 8 June 2022

It was proposed by Councillor Boughtflower and seconded by Councillor Mitchell to withdraw the previous nominations for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees.

Resolved to withdraw previous nominations.

Resolved to appoint Chairs and Vice-Chairs to Committees and Sub-Committees as set out in the supplementary agenda.

e Appointment of named substitutes to committees

At the meeting on 8 June 2022

Resolved to appoint named substitutes to Committees as set out in the supplementary agenda.

Resolved that the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make amendments to the named substitutions for any political group during the 2022/23 municipal year, on receipt of a request from the group leader.

78/22 Members allowances scheme

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

It was noted that the report omitted the agreed allowance for the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Committee which equated to £1,100 per annum. As this arrangement was previously agreed, this would also be included in the considerations.

It was proposed by Councillor Boughtflower and seconded by Councillor Mitchell that the Council agree interim arrangements for the Members' Allowances Scheme.

Resolved to agree interim arrangements for the Members' Allowances Scheme pending the completion of the Independent Remuneration Panel process.

79/22 Appointments to outside bodies

At the meeting on 26 May 2022

South West Middlesex Crematorium Board

It was proposed by Councillor Nichols and seconded by Councillor Sider and **resolved** that Councillor Robert Noble serve as the Council's representative on the South West Middlesex Crematorium Board.

It was proposed by Councillor S Dunn and seconded by Councillor Sexton and **resolved** that Councillor R Dunn serve as the Council's Deputy representative on the South West Middlesex Crematorium Board.

Surrey Police and Crime Panel

It was proposed by Councillor Boughtflower and seconded by Councillor Mitchell that Councillor Sati Buttar serve as the Council's representative on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

It was proposed by Councillor Fidler and seconded by Councillor Sexton that Councillor Bernie Spoor serve as the Council's representative on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

Resolved that Councillor Sati Buttar serve as the Council's representative on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

It was **resolved** that outstanding business be concluded at 7pm on 8 June 2022.

Questions from members of the public

Question 1 – Andrew McLuskey

(received 25/4/22 at 17:24)

“Given the controversy surrounding recent planning decisions in Spelthorne how does the Council plan to benefit from new, environmentally friendly measures such as the amended National Planning Policy Framework and the Office for Place?”

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Council

14 July 2022



Title	Minor amendments to the Constitution and the Pay Policy Statement
Purpose of the report	To make a decision
Report Author	Petra der Man, Interim Monitoring Officer
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Exempt	No
Exemption Reason	Not applicable
Corporate Priority	This item is not in the current list of Corporate Priorities but still requires a Committee decision.
Recommendations	<p>Council is asked to agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the proposed terms of reference for the Appointments and Appeals Committee (Appendix 1) and associated changes to the Constitution at Appendix 2; 2. the associated changes to the Pay Policy Statement, arising from the above (Appendix 3); 3. the removal of nomination arrangements for the Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee (Appendix1); 4. the proposed changes to the Substitutions Scheme (Appendix 3); and 5. to request the Independent Remuneration Panel to review the provision of a special responsibility allowance for substitutes on Development sub-Committee when it undertakes its review of the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2022-23.
Reason for Recommendation	<p>The proposed amendments relating to senior staff appointments will bring terminology in the Constitution in line with the relevant statutory provisions and confirm what has been in operation at this Authority.</p> <p>The proposed amendments to the membership requirements of Committees will result in a simpler nomination process whilst maintaining political proportionality. It will also avoid the delay experienced this year in decision-making by the Development Sub-Committee.</p> <p>The proposed changes to the Substitution Scheme will bring arrangements for the Development sub-Committee in line with all the Council's Committees.</p>

1. Summary of the report

- 1.1 This report seeks to make minor amendments to the Constitution in relation to:
- a) senior staff appointments;
 - b) membership requirements of the Development Sub-Committee and Administrative Committee; and
 - c) the Substitution Scheme at Part 4c of the Constitution

2. Key issues

Senior staff appointments

- 2.1 The Council has appointed members to the Appointments Committee and its terms of reference need to be set out in the Constitution.
- 2.2 At this Authority, councillors have always been involved in appointments to the role of Group Head (and previously Head of Service) as well as chief officers (being the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executives).
- 2.3 Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer are statutory positions which are defined in section 2 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (the 1989 Act). The discharge of the functions of appointment and dismissal of officers are laid out in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001, Schedule 1, sections 2 and 3.
- 2.4 According to the definition in the 1989 Act, the position of Group Head at this Authority constitutes a deputy chief officer.
- 2.5 The definitions of chief officers and deputy chief officers and the processes for these appointments are referred to in several Parts of the Constitution and additionally in the Pay Policy Statement. When referencing all these documents together there is an apparent lack of consistency in the terminology and processes used for these senior staff appointments which requires clarification.

Membership requirements for the Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee

- 2.6 Currently, both the Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee require nominations for their members from other Service Committees. This has resulted in complications in both instances:
- (a) a delay to the Development sub-Committee's work as it cannot meet until the two nominating Service Committees have met and nominated members, followed by a Council meeting to appoint those members.
 - (b) the requirement for Administrative Committee to comprise 3 members from each of four of the Service Committees has resulted in very restrictive choices for political groups' membership of Administrative Committee and has proved impractical.

Substitution Scheme

- 2.7 The current arrangements at Part 4c of the Constitution, do not permit substitute members on Development sub-Committee.

- 2.8 The Substitution Scheme was first introduced in 2021 with the change to the Committee System. Development sub-Committee was excluded from substitution arrangements as it was considered members of this sub-Committee needed to develop specialist knowledge and understanding about property matters.
- 2.9 The Committee System Working Group recommends the removal of this exception, to allow substitutes on Development sub-Committee.
- 2.10 As Development sub-Committee ordinarily meets at 11am on a Monday, the Committee System Working Group considered whether the current deadline for notification of a substitution of 5pm the day before a meeting, was still appropriate.

3. Options analysis and proposal

Senior staff appointments

- 3.1 As the Constitution provides for an ad hoc Appeals Committee to deal with senior staff disciplinary matters, it is proposed to combine the functions for appointments and appeals into one Committee. The proposed terms of reference for this Committee are shown at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 For the sake of consistency and clarity around the processes for senior staff appointments, it is proposed to amend associated Parts of the Constitution as set out in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.3 The proposed revised Pay Policy Statement including associated changes is shown at **Appendix 3**.
- 3.4 These proposals will bring the terminology for senior staff appointments in line with the relevant statutory provisions and reflect what has been in operation at Spelthorne Borough Council.

Membership requirements for the Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee

- 3.5 It is proposed to remove the nomination arrangements for Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee in Part 3b, Terms of Reference of the Constitution (**Appendix 1**). The Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee will then both be constituted in the same way as other committees to reflect political balance.
- 3.6 The Committee System Working Group has been consulted on this proposal and recommends the removal of nomination arrangements for Development sub-Committee and Administrative Committee.

Substitution Scheme

- 3.7 The proposed changes to the Substitution Scheme will bring the arrangements for the Development sub-Committee in line with all the Council's Committees. These are:
- (a) To remove the exception and permit the appointment of substitutes to the Development sub-Committee.
 - (b) To change the notification rule from "5pm on the day of the meeting" to "two hours before the meeting".
- 3.8 The proposed revised Substitution Scheme as recommended by the Committee System Working Group is shown at **Appendix 4**.

- 3.9 The members of the Development sub-Committee are entitled under the current Members' Allowance Scheme to an allowance of £2000 each.
- 3.10 The Committee System Working Group discussed the provision of a special responsibility allowance for substitute members on the sub-Committee. The Council cannot make any changes to its Members Allowances Scheme without first considering the advice of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) on the issues involved.
- 3.11 The Committee System Working Group recommends that Council asks the Panel to review the provision of a special responsibility allowance for substitutes on Development sub-Committee when it undertakes its review of the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2022-23.
- 4. Financial implications**
- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from minor changes to the Constitution and the Pay Policy Statement in relation to senior staff appointments.
- 4.2 There is the possibility of a financial implication arising from Council's decision on whether to permit substitutes on Development sub-Committee. This will be subject to a review and recommendation by the IRP on Members' Allowances and the Council's subsequent decision on that matter.
- 5. Other considerations**
- 5.1 There are none.
- 6. Equality and Diversity**
- 6.1 The proposed changes are to meet legislative and Constitutional requirements and have no impact on equality and diversity.
- 7. Sustainability/Climate Change Implications**
- 7.1 There is no impact on sustainability or climate change issues arising from this report.
- 8. Timetable for implementation**
- 8.1 Subject to Council agreement, the amendments proposed in this report will be implemented immediately.
- 9. Contact**
- 9.1 Gill Scott, Corporate Governance Support Officer, 01784 444243.

Background papers: There are none.

Appendices:

(Tracked versions of the documents referred to in the Appendices are available for councillors in the Members Library)

Appendix 1 – Part 3b Terms of Reference of Committees

Appendix 2 – Proposed changes to other Parts of the constitution

Appendix 3 – Pay Policy Statement

Appendix 4 – Substitution Scheme

TERMS OF REFERENCE

All Committees will have the following functions in respect of their respective areas:

- To develop the Council's policy, strategy and budget proposals
- To work at meeting the Council's corporate objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan.
- To encourage performance improvement in relevant services, consistent with Value for Money principles and within the policy and budgetary framework agreed by the Council. This includes responding appropriately to statutory reports on external inspections and service reviews.
- To develop a full understanding of the functions and services within the Committee's remit
- To facilitate and encourage public participation in the Council's activities by engaging key stakeholders in the Council's processes for decision making.
- To oversee the publication of consultation papers on key issues and ensure that there is appropriate public consultation.
- To consider budget priorities and actions on the delivery of Council services within the overall policy and budgetary framework agreed by the Council.
- To consult with local Ward councillors about policy developments or service initiatives which have a specific relevance to the Committee.
- To support positive relationships and practices through co-operative working with staff.
- To commission studies or the collection of information relating to policy issues (Corporate Policy and Resources Committee) or service delivery (Service Committees).
- Where a function does not clearly fall within the remit of one particular Service Committee, the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee shall direct which Committee shall deal with the function, or deal with the matter itself.
- Each Committee is limited in authority to grant expenditure to £1 million for any particular project without seeking approval from full Council. Any project must be taken as a whole, and the project cannot be sub-divided into its constituent parts with each being authorised separately to avoid this limit set by this rule.

CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Membership

15 members reflecting political balance, comprising the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Service Committees and with the Leader and Deputy Leader appointed as Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Formulation of the Council's annual budget, including the capital and revenue budgets, prudential controls and council tax, and putting forward a draft budget to Council for approval
- Overseeing and managing the Council's financial strategies, plans, and regulations
- Formulating the Council's Community and Corporate Plans for recommendation to Council
- Formulating and co-ordinating the Council's Policy Framework and to making recommendations to Council accordingly
- Considering periodic budgetary monitoring and variation reports and making any recommendations to the Council as necessary
- Revenues and benefits
- Property asset management including investment, purchases and disposals, and compulsory purchases
- Matters that cross the remits of two or more 'service' committees and/or to resolve conflict
- To monitor and review Council policies and strategies that do not fall within a Service Committee's remit.
- To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.
- To undertake scrutiny and monitor the performance of external bodies who deliver services to the community
- Any other matters which do not clearly fall within the remit of any of the other Service Committees or delegated to officers.

Development Sub-Committee

Objective:

Within the overall policies and strategies set by the Council, to provide leadership, decision making and accountability for the implementation of the Council's planned programme of capital works, both housing and large - scale non-housing schemes, as well as decision making in respect of the management of the Council's Assets.

Membership

11 Members reflecting political balance.

Functions

1. Acquisitions
 - (a) To receive recommendations from officers (where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded) as to possible new property acquisitions
 - (b) Following (a) above, to give an initial steer on whether to investigate further those potential acquisitions
 - (c) Following (b) above and any subsequent reports from officers, to make recommendations to the Corporate Policy & Resources Committee to proceed with particular acquisitions in accordance with relevant Council procedure rules.

2. Disposals
 - (a) To receive recommendations from officers (where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded) as to the potential freehold (or long leasehold) disposal of property assets
 - (b) Following (a) above, to give an initial steer on whether to investigate further those potential disposals
 - (c) Following (b) above and any subsequent reports from officers, to make recommendations to the Corporate Policy & Resources Committee to proceed with particular freehold (or long leasehold) disposals in accordance with relevant Council procedure rules.

3. Management of Strategic Investments and residential developments
 - (a) To approve leasehold disposals (lettings) in residential developments, investment and retail properties (where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded)
 - (b) To approve the transfer of residential property assets from and to Knowle Green Estates Ltd if deemed necessary for the appropriate and effective management of the estate
 - (c) To receive quarterly reports on the management of the investment assets, including rental income, potential letting opportunities, significant assignments and any other estate management issues based on officer recommendations.
 - (d) To approve the exercise of a break option under the terms of lease of land or property where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded.
 - (e) To approve or agree to the surrender of a lease of land or property where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded.

4. Management of Municipal Portfolio

- (a) To approve leasehold disposal (lettings) of municipal properties which exceed officer/member financial delegation limits
- (b) To approve the exercise of a break option under the terms of lease of land or property where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded.
- (c) To approve or agree to the surrender of a lease of land or property where officer/member delegation financial limits are exceeded.

5. Development

- (a) To fully review the business case for all potential development projects including scheme detail, build costs, risks and issues and financial performance including viability
- (b) To oversee the budget for each approved project and the effective implementation of the council's development programme
- (c) To approve the award of development contracts over the Public Contracts Regulations threshold or where the requirement is strategic/critical in accordance contract standing orders
- (d) To receive reports from officers and make decisions as set out on the Development-Gateway stages - Appendix A to this document. This includes instances (at any point in the Gateway stage process) where there has been any variance of projected costs over and above the agreed budget (whether the budget was set by the P&R Committee in a specific report, or in the Capital Programme).
- (e) To receive bi-monthly 'Red, Amber and Green' rating reports on all approved development projects. To include high-level finance projections, risk registers and project timeline.
- (f) To receive bi-annual presentations of the longer-term expenditure plan across the development portfolio which is to indicate future funding streams and expectations.
- (g) To receive an annual report on progress and success, setting out performance against any targets (including projected expenditure and costs).

Appendix A – Development-Gateway stages

Five stages of sign off:

1. Acquisition/Feasibility
2. Outline design
3. Detailed design prior to planning permission application
4. Construction
5. Transfer to business as usual

Stage	Decision	Reference back to CP&R	Documentation required
Acquisition/feasibility	To undertake initial design development up to feasibility stage. Appointment of consultants if decision at	For actual purchase if appropriate.	Project brief

	committee level is under contract standing orders.		
Outline design	To progress to Concept design (RIBA stage 2) up to planning submission	If supplementary expenditure required	Outline design and project progress report
Detailed design	To sign off detailed design (RIBA stage 3-4) post grant of planning permission. Sign off tender for contractor if required under CSOs.	If supplementary expenditure required	Detailed design and project progress documentation
Construction	To award the contract for the contractor if required under CSOs. To progress to construction	If supplementary expenditure required	Tender report and project progression documentation
Transfer to business as usual	To make any transfer to KGE. Project sign off	Report to note on outcome	Project completion documentation.

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Membership

15 members reflecting political balance.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Planning policy
- The Local Plan
- Recycling
- Biodiversity
- Climate change – including carbon management, mitigation and adaptation measures
- Pollution control including contaminated land and air quality
- Emergency planning
- Review and scrutiny of the exercise by the relevant authorities of the flood risk management functions which may affect the Council's area.
- To monitor and review relevant Council policies and strategies and recommend changes or new policies to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.
- To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.
- To undertake scrutiny and monitor the performance of external bodies who deliver services to the community
- To review and scrutinise budget proposals relevant to the Committee's functions and make recommendations to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Membership

9 members reflecting political balance.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Economic development, business partnerships and town centre viability & regeneration
 - Heathrow liaison
 - Business transformation, support and inward investment
 - Tourism
 - Transport
 - To monitor and review relevant Council policies and strategies and recommend changes or new policies to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.
 - To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.
 - To undertake scrutiny and monitor the performance of external bodies who deliver services to the community
 - To review and scrutinise budget proposals relevant to the Committee's functions and make recommendations to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.
- + The scrutiny of Heathrow to be carried out jointly with Environment & Sustainability Committee

COMMUNITY WELLBEING & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Membership

11 members reflecting political balance.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Leisure, libraries, arts, sports and culture
- Community development and engagement
- Voluntary sector strategy and liaison
- Housing policy & strategy
- Housing options, allocations and support services
- Affordable housing and homelessness
- Private sector and social housing enforcement
- Home Improvement Agency
- Grants to outside bodies
- Education and young people
- Services for older people
- Day centres
- Supported living independently – including meals on wheels
- Family support
- Disability issues and grants
- To monitor and review relevant Council policies and strategies and recommend changes or new policies to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.
- To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.
- To undertake scrutiny and monitor the performance of external bodies who deliver services relevant to this Committee, to the community; in particular to exercise the Council's statutory scrutiny responsibilities arising under the Police and Justice Act 2006 in relation to crime and disorder.
- To review and scrutinise budget proposals relevant to the Committee's functions and make recommendations to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Membership

9 members reflecting political balance.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Street cleansing services
- Street Scene
- Waste strategy and management
- Parking Services
- Parks, open spaces and allotments
- Building Control
- Cemeteries
- Community safety and crime & disorder
- Civil Enforcement (JET)
- Workplace Health & Safety enforcement of businesses in the community
- Licensing matters save for those specifically reserved to the Licensing Committee,
- Environmental health functions including food safety, housing conditions and pollution control, with the exception of air quality and contaminated land.
- Planning enforcement
- To monitor and review relevant Council policies and strategies and recommend changes or new policies to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.
- To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.
- To undertake scrutiny and monitor the performance of external bodies who deliver services to the community
- To review and scrutinise budget proposals and make recommendations to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Membership

12 members reflecting political balance.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- Performance management, Project management & service delivery options/transformation
- Making such appointments to Outside Bodies which are not reserved to Council
- Customer Services
- Corporate Services including Communications, Legal Services, ICT, Democratic Services and Electoral Services
- Human Resources Policy
- This Committee has responsibility for scrutinising matters referred to it by the Service Committees or councillors in accordance with the Council's Call-in Scheme (Part 4b of this Constitution).

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PANEL

The Panel is a joint committee, made up of both appointed and co-opted members. All county, district and borough councillors are eligible to be Panel members.

In Surrey, there are 12 appointed members equating to the 12 councils. One councillor from Spelthorne Borough Council (appointed annually by Council) is a member of the Panel. In addition, there must be at least 2 co-opted members on the Panel (co-opted by the Panel itself, not the constituent councils) but the size of the Panel must not exceed 20 members in total. Surrey County Council is the lead authority administering the work of the Panel.

The Panel is established as an Overview and Scrutiny body and therefore has the legal powers to:

- Require any papers in the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) possession (except those that are operationally sensitive).
- Require the PCC (and his staff) to attend the Panel to answer questions.
- Request the Chief Constable attends to answer questions where the PCC has been required to appear before the Panel.
- Make reports and recommendations on any action or decision of the Commissioner.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 details the functions that the Panel exercises as follows:

- Review the draft police and crime plan, or draft variation, given to the Panel by the PCC and make a report or recommendations on the draft plan or variation to the PCC.
- Review the PCC's annual report and make a report or recommendations on the report to the PCC.
- Review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken by the PCC in connection with the discharge of the PCC's functions.
- Publish any report and recommendations made to the PCC.
- Review certain senior appointments made by the PCC.
- Review Chief Constable appointments, with the power to veto the appointment with a two-thirds majority.
- Review and report on the PCC's proposals to remove a Chief Constable.
- Review the PCC's level of precept, with the power to veto the proposed precept with a two-thirds majority.
- Suspend the PCC if he or she is charged with certain criminal offences.
- Appoint an acting PCC if necessary.
- Initial handling and informal resolution of complaints about the conduct of the PCC or his Deputy.

REGULATORY COMMITTEES

AUDIT COMMITTEE

(7 councillors reflecting political balance and one independent member)

1. To provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment, independent scrutiny of the authority's financial and non-financial performance to the extent that it affects the authority's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment, and to oversee the financial reporting process:
 - To approve (but not direct) the internal audit's strategy plan and performance.
 - To review summary internal audit reports and the main issues arising and to seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary.
 - To consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies.
 - To consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud, bribery and anti-corruption arrangements.
 - Seek assurances that action is being taken on risk related issues identified by auditors and inspectors.
 - To be satisfied that the authority's assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, properly reflect the risk environment and to take actions required to improve it.
 - To ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and that the value of the audit process is actively promoted.
 - To review the financial statements, external auditors' opinion and reports to councillors, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.

2. To receive Corporate Project Management updates

LICENSING COMMITTEE

13 members reflecting political balance

1. Subject to staff delegations, In relation to the Licensing Act 2003:
 - a. The determination of an application for a premises licence where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - b. The determination of an application for a club premises certificate where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - c. The determination of an application for a provisional statement where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - d. The determination of an application for variation of a premises licence/club premises certificates where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - e. The determination of an application to vary the designated premises supervisor following objections from a Responsible Authority;
 - f. The determination of an application for the transfer of a premises licence following objections from a Responsible Authority;
 - g. Consideration of an objection from a Responsible Authority made to an interim authority notice;
 - h. The decision to give counter notice following objections from a Responsible Authority to a temporary event order;
 - i. The determination of an application for the grant of a personal licence following objections from the Responsible Authority;
 - j. The determination of an application for a review of a premises licence.
2. In relation to the Gambling Act 2005:
 - a. The determination of an application for a licence where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - b. The determination of an application for a variation of a licence where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn;
 - c. The determination of an application for the transfer of a licence where relevant representations have been received from the Gambling Commission;
 - d. The determination of an application for a provisional statement where relevant representations have been received and not withdrawn;
 - e. The determination of an application for a review of a licence;
 - f. The determination of an application for club gaming / club machine permits where objections have been made and not withdrawn;
 - g. The cancellation of club gaming / club machine permits where relevant representations have been received and not withdrawn;

- h. The decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice.
3. In relation to Part II Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1982:
 - a. To grant or refuse applications for the grant, renewal or transfer of licences for sex establishments;
 - b. To grant or refuse applications for variations;
 - c. To attach such terms, conditions and restrictions to licences as is seen necessary and appropriate;
 - d. To revoke licences
 - e. To determine whether a charge should be made and where applicable, the level of such fees and charges for the issue, approval, consent, licence or permit, or other registration pursuant to powers set out in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.
 4. In relation to taxi and private hire licensing:
 - a. the adoption of all policies relating to taxi and private hire licensing.
 - b. In relation to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to revoke, refuse, to grant or renew, hackney carriage and private hire drivers and operators licences in circumstances where staff consider it appropriate to refer the matter to the Committee or Sub-Committee;
 - c. To determine whether a charge should be made and where applicable, the level of such fees and charges for the issue, approval, consent, licence or permit, or other registration pursuant to powers set out in the Local government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982;
 - d. To determine applications for the revision of the taxi fare tariff pursuant to section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
 5. The passing of a resolution that the schedule 2 to the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 should apply in the authority's area.
 6. To monitor and review relevant Council policies and strategies and recommend changes or new policies to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee, where they do not require a Council decision under the Policy Framework at Article 4 of this Constitution.
 7. To review and scrutinise service delivery and in particular ensuring that best value in service delivery is being obtained for the community.

All members of the Licensing Committee may serve on a Sub-Committee and delegated authority is given to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Licensing Committee, to select members to serve on a Sub-Committee on a case by case basis.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

(15 Members reflecting political balance)

Subject to staff delegations, any applications for planning permission under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to which any of the following below apply AND subject to no decisions being issued within 21 days of the application's appearance on the Publicity Schedule;

- 1 Where councillor representations are received in writing within the specified "call in" period within the approved scheme.
- 2 Where the Planning Development Manager decides, after consultation with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, that an application should be submitted to the Planning Committee on planning grounds, or where there is significant public concern or where it is very contentious.
- 3 Where the application is submitted by the Council or by the Council with another person (individual or corporate).
- 4 Where the application is submitted by an officer of the Council (which shall also include applications for lawful development under Part VI of the 1990 Act).
- 5 Where an application is submitted by a councillor (which shall also include applications for lawful development under Part VI of the 1990 Act).
- 6 Approval of over 9 (nine) net additional residential units by new build (minor application).
- 7 Approval of over 1,000m² net additional floor space by new build (major application)
- 8 Recommendation of no objection for over 1,000m² net additional building floor space or 1 hectare net additional land area in connection with new Surrey County Council minerals and waste applications (gravel extraction/restoration).
- 9 Recommendation of no objection for extension of time limits for Surrey County Council minerals and waste applications where the net additional land area is over 5000m².
- 10 Powers under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as revised or amended)
- 11 For the local listing of any building

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

(9 Councillors reflecting political balance + 2 Independent Members)

Promoting the maintenance of high standards of conduct by councillors and any co-opted members of the Council.

In addition to the broad functions of the Committee set out in Article 8 it is also delegated to undertake the following work on behalf of the Council:

- to keep an overview on the arrangements for dealing with complaints under the code of conduct, making alterations and publishing them where it considers necessary;
- to devise such further protocols and procedures as are necessary for the efficient management of complaints which have to be considered by a hearings panel;
- to consult with the Independent Person on any matters which have broad implications for the promotion of high standards by the Council;
- to make recommendations to Council on standing orders for the registration and declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and other interests; and,
- to make recommendations to Council on any revisions to the Members' Code of Conduct and the registration of interests.
- To promote, manage and agree a programme of member development.

Hearings Panels (comprising three councillors drawn from the membership of the Standards Committee and chaired by an independent member) established under the Council's published arrangements for dealing with complaints may:

- require the Member to apologise either privately or in public;
- require the Member to attend training;
- censure the Member;
- send a report to Council to censure the Member;
- require the Monitoring Officer to publish a report in the newspaper or on the Council's website about the councillor's conduct;
- withdraw privileges provided by the Council such as computer equipment, internet or email access;
- recommend to the councillor's group leader that the councillor be removed from a Committee, or an outside body (as appropriate);or,
- a combination of any of the above.

APPOINTMENTS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

Membership

5 members reflecting political balance. The members of this Committee may not also sit on the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee in respect of the same matter.

Functions

This committee has responsibility for the following functions of the Council:

- To make a recommendation to Council on the appointment of the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive)
- To appoint other Chief Officers and Deputies as defined in Article 10.1, and in accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules at Part 4(f) of this Constitution.
- To make a recommendation to Council on the designation of the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer.
- To make a recommendation to Council on the appointment of the Independent Audit member.

Note: for the avoidance of doubt, Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers are posts at or above salary level Group Head.

- To hear appeals against action taken short of dismissal in relation to the Council's chief officers in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (as amended by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015) and conduct any further investigation it considers necessary to reach a decision either to confirm the action or to award no sanction or a lesser sanction.

INVESTIGATING AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

A panel of five councillors. All councillors form a panel and are eligible to serve on the Committee with membership selected by the group leaders on a proportional basis as and when the Committee is required to sit.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To conduct an initial assessment of allegations against the Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer or Monitoring Officer (together known as Statutory Officers), or other issues under investigation.
2. To consider whether it is appropriate to suspend a Statutory Officer if an allegation is such that if proven it would amount to gross misconduct or if the continuing presence at work of the Statutory Officer might compromise the investigation or impair the efficient exercise of the council's functions.
3. The Chairman of the IDC may suspend the Statutory Officer immediately in an emergency if an exceptional situation arises whereby allegations of misconduct by the Statutory Officer are such that his / her remaining presence at work poses a serious risk to the health and safety of others or the resources, information or reputation of the authority.
4. To agree or authorise any protocols which are necessary to manage the suspension of the Statutory Officer and the investigation.
5. To review the suspension of the Statutory Officer after a period of two months has elapsed.
6. To decide whether to appoint an Independent Investigator to undertake a more detailed investigation of an allegation against the Statutory Officer or other issues under investigation.
7. To appoint an Independent Investigator selected from the list maintained by the National Joint Secretaries, providing the necessary facilities, paying the remuneration and providing all available information about the allegations.
8. To consider the report of the Independent Investigator, and also give the Statutory Officer the opportunity to state his / her case and to question witnesses, where relevant, before making a decision.

INDEPENDENT PANEL

MEMBERSHIP

A Panel shall comprise of independent persons (at least two in number) who have been appointed by the Council, or by another Council, for the purposes of the council members' conduct regime under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.

Invitations for membership of the Panel shall be issued in accordance with the following priority order, as and when the Panel is required to sit:

- (a) an independent person who has been appointed by the Council and who is a local government elector in the authority's area
- (b) any other independent person who has been appointed by the Council and
- (c) an independent person who has been appointed by another council or councils

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. In a case where the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee (IDC) is proposing dismissal of a Statutory Officer:
 - to receive any oral representations from the Statutory Officer
 - to invite any response on behalf of the IDC to the points made
 - to review the decision and prepare a report for Council offering any advice, views or recommendations it may have to the council on the proposal for dismissal

Appropriate training should be provided for Independent Panel members.

Members of an Independent Panel may claim out of pocket expenses in relation to their work on the Panel.

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Proposed changes to other Parts of the Constitution in relation to senior staff appointments

Article 10

Addition of paragraph 10.1e to define Deputy Chief Officers:

10.1 (e) Deputy Chief Officers

The Council will engage persons for the posts of Group Head within its management structure, who will be designated deputy chief officers, as defined in section 2(8) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Part 3d Delegations to Officers

Paragraph 6.2 amended to clarify which appointments may be made by officers by the addition of the words 'at, or' as shown below:

“Within staffing budgets and overall management structure to approve all matters relating to the organisation, appointment (other than appointments **at, or** above, grade Group Head) and management (including disciplinary action) of staff in accordance with the Council’s staff policies and procedures.”

Part 4f Officer Employment Procedure Rules

Paragraph 4 amended as follows:

4. **APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OFFICERS AND ~~OTHER SENIOR~~ DEPUTY CHIEF OFFICERS**

A committee or sub-committee of the Council will appoint Chief Officers and ~~Senior~~ **Deputy** Chief Officers, **as defined in Article 10**, to any posts **at, or** above salary level Group Head.

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Spelthorne Borough Council
Pay Policy Statement 2022-23

1 Purpose

This Pay Policy Statement is the annual statement as required by the Localism Act 2011, Section 38(1), and applies for the financial year 2022-23. The purpose is to provide transparency about how Spelthorne uses public funds to pay staff.

The statement sets out Spelthorne Borough Council's policies relating to the remuneration of chief officers, the remuneration of its lowest paid employees, and the relationship between the remuneration of Spelthorne Chief Officers and other employees.

2 Definitions

For the purposes of this pay policy statement the following definitions will apply:

2.1 Chief Officers

The following Spelthorne Borough Council posts are included in the definition of chief officers:

- a) The head of paid service designated under section 4(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

This is the Chief Executive

- b) The monitoring officer designated under section 5(1) of that Act.

This is the Group Head Corporate Governance

- c) A statutory chief officer mentioned in section 2(6) of that Act.

This is the Deputy Chief Executive who acts as the Chief Finance Officer.

- d) Non statutory chief officers mentioned in section 2(7) of that Act.

This is the other Deputy Chief Executive post.

- e) For the purposes of this Pay Policy Statement the definition of deputy chief officers is wider than the definition contained within section 2(8) of that Act. In this Pay Policy Statement, deputy chief officers are those posts, including those considered in the nature of

support services, reporting directly to the statutory and non-statutory chief officers i.e. Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Finance Officer and the other Deputy Chief Executive:

Reporting to the Chief Executive

- Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer)
- Deputy Chief Executive
- Group Head Corporate Governance
- Head of Communications and Marketing
- Property Development Manager

Reporting to the Group Head Corporate Governance (monitoring officer)

- Principal Solicitor (deputy monitoring officer)

Reporting to the Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer) and the other Deputy Chief Executive

- Chief Accountant
- Group Head Commissioning and Transformation
- Group Head Neighbourhood Services
- Group Head Community Wellbeing
- Group Head Regeneration and Growth
- Deputy Group Head, Customer Relations
- Head of Family Support (this post is shared with Elmbridge Borough Council and Epsom & Ewell Borough Councils)
- Building Control Manager
- Senior Environmental Health Manager

Any restructures during the year or secondments to cover short-term requirements may alter reporting relationships which could change the roles reporting to specific Chief Officer posts.

A number of posts are part time or shared with other councils, as noted above.

2.2 Management Team

Spelthorne Borough Council's Management Team is the Chief Executive and 2 Deputy Chief Executive posts.

2.3 Pay

In addition to salary, remuneration includes fees, allowances, benefits in kind and termination payments.

2.4 Lowest paid employees

Refers to those staff employed within grade Scale 1 of the Council's pay framework, which is the lowest grade on the Council's pay framework. Currently there are 85 posts, 16.19% of the Council's establishment, at this level.

2.5 Employees who are not a chief officer

Refers to all staff who are not covered under the 'Chief Officer' group above, including the lowest paid employees.

3 Pay framework – general principles applying to all staff

3.1 General approach

Remuneration at all levels needs to be adequate to recruit, retain and develop a skilled and flexible workforce to deliver services to the community and fulfil the Council's business objectives. Remuneration must be fair and reasonable in the circumstances and not unnecessarily excessive. Each Council has responsibility for balancing these factors in the light of the unique challenges locally and retaining flexibility to deal with circumstances that might arise. Pay arrangements must comply with UK legislation. Salary payments for individual postholders are pro-rated where they are employed for less than full time. Salary payments are pensionable payments, except where specified in the Pension Regulations.

Terms and conditions of employment are local Spelthorne terms and conditions as amended by Spelthorne.

3.2 Responsibility for decisions on remuneration

Decisions on pay are made in line with Spelthorne Borough Council's scheme of delegations and in accordance with employment policies, procedures and arrangements in place and staff terms and conditions of employment.

Approval for any change to the Chief Executive's salary is by the Leader of the Council if within the salary scale and existing policies or otherwise by the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee/Council. Approval for any changes to the salary range for Management Team posts below Chief Executive is by the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) in consultation with the Leader. Approval for changes for posts below management team are the responsibility of the Head of Paid Service and Management Team or Group Head within the budget, council policy framework and delegations.

Pay awards are considered annually for staff. Spelthorne operate local arrangements for deciding pay awards in consultation and negotiation

with the Spelthorne Branch of UNISON (“UNISON”), within the limits of the Collective Agreement between UNISON and Spelthorne. Pay awards are decided by full Council as part of the annual budget process. Retention, affordability and local circumstances will be taken into consideration as part of this decision.

3.3 Salary grades and grading framework

Grades are determined by taking account of the full scope of the job including the complexity of work, range of responsibilities and the skills and experience required to undertake them, having regard to the need for equal pay for work of equal value. Each grade consists of a number of points from the Spelthorne pay spine, from the bottom to the top of the grade. The top of grade is considered to be the rate of pay for a fully experienced, qualified and competent post holder. Incremental progression is subject to satisfactory performance. Accelerated increments can be awarded in exceptional circumstances within the grade but not beyond the top of the grade. Incremental progression for the two Deputy Chief Executives is subject to performance and achievement of targets.

3.4 New starters joining the Council

Appointments are made at the bottom of the salary scale, or at an appropriate point taking into account relevant skills and experience, and staff progress through the scale to the maximum of the grade over a number of years as experience is gained, subject to satisfactory performance.

3.5 Allowances and additional payments

Additional payments may be approved by the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executives and Management Team in the case of a member of staff undertaking additional duties for an extended period of time outside the normal responsibilities of their post or to complete specific tasks. For example to cover the duties of a vacant post which is at a higher grade, to undertake additional work in relation to a time-limited project, or where a formal partnership/secondment arrangement is in place with another local authority resulting in additional duties, responsibilities, complexity and working hours and it is not appropriate to otherwise change the grade of the post.

Spelthorne will consider paying a recruitment, retention or market supplement allowance in order to maintain service provision where it has been difficult to recruit to a vacant post or to retain staff in a particular service and specific criteria are met. Recruitment and retention payments are a separate payment, not consolidated into salary, and are subject to annual review and removed when no longer justified.

Essential user and casual user car allowances are payable where staff are required to use their own vehicles for council business. A non-pensionable car allowance is applied to the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive posts. A non-pensionable car allowance is applied to Group Head posts on Chief Officer local terms and conditions of employment. Committee Allowance payments are payable where staff are required to attend Council meetings outside normal working hours (except for Management Team and Chief Officer posts who do not receive additional payment).

3.6 Pay awards

Pay awards are considered annually for staff. Spelthorne operate local arrangements for deciding pay awards in consultation and negotiation with UNISON, within the limits of the Collective Agreement between UNISON and Spelthorne. Pay awards are decided by full Council as part of the annual budget process. Retention, affordability and local circumstances will be taken into consideration as part of this decision.

3.7 Pension scheme

All Spelthorne staff including Chief Officers are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme with employee contributions tiered according to salary band. Employee contributions range from 5.5% for pensionable pay up to £14,600 to 12.5% for pensionable pay above £165,001 (the top rate does not apply to any Spelthorne posts).

The Council's pension current service contribution as employer is currently 17.3% (additionally there is a past service deficit contribution paid as a single lump sum by the Council. The figure for this is £1,000,000). In 2020/21 a higher amount of £2,122,000 was paid to allow for contributions in 2021/22 and 2022/23 to decrease to £1,000,000 each year. Employer contribution rates are reviewed every 3 years following a revaluation of the pension fund and pension liabilities in relation to current and past members. The next revaluation is due as at 31 March 2022 and will impact on employers' contribution from 2023/24.

3.8 Policy on employing someone who has taken redundancy from another authority

An individual who has been made redundant from another council may apply to work at Spelthorne and would be considered against the required criteria for the post. If they accept an offer of employment with Spelthorne before the end of their employment with the other council to take effect within 4 weeks of leaving then they will not be due a redundancy payment from the previous employer and will retain continuity of service. If the gap is longer than 4 weeks their continuous service is broken, which means that they would have no eligibility for redundancy payments until they have 2 years further service.

The government are consulting on the possible implementation of exit payment reforms and, if agreed, this may affect the repayment of any redundancy payments.

3.9 Policy on employing someone who is also drawing a pension

In line with the pension regulations Spelthorne has a flexible retirement policy and will consider requests from staff who wish to draw their pension and continue working in a reduced capacity. Requests will only be agreed where there is a salary saving through either reduced hours or responsibility.

An individual who is drawing a pension in relation to a previous employment may apply to work at Spelthorne and would be considered against the criteria for the post. If they are appointed, the salary will be in accordance with the grade for the job, with abatement of their pension subject to the rules of the appropriate pension scheme of the pension in payment, as apply at the time.

3.10 Policy on increase in or enhancement to pension entitlements

Pension entitlements are in line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and Spelthorne Pensions Policy in operation at the time.

Spelthorne's Pension Policy was agreed by the Council on 27 February 2020. It applies to all Spelthorne employees including Chief Officers. The Pension Policy is attached as Appendix 2 (to the Pay Policy Statement).

3.11 Payment arrangements

Employees, including chief officers, are paid through payroll and subject to appropriate income tax and national insurance deductions.

4 Level and elements of remuneration for chief officers

4.1 Salaries for chief officers

Spelthorne policy is to pay chief officers according to the Spelthorne salary grade appropriate for the duties and responsibilities of the job. Each grade consists of a number of points from the Spelthorne pay spine, from the bottom to the top of the grade.

The salary paid to Group Head posts depends upon the range of responsibilities and consists of a salary range of a number of increments taken from a 4 point Group Head Salary band.

The current full time salary scales for chief officer posts listed in Paragraph 2.1 above are set out in the table below. Where posts are filled on a part-time basis the post holders are paid pro-rata to their contractual hours.

Post	Bottom of salary range	Top of salary range
Chief Executive	£112,808	£127,187
Group Head Corporate Governance	£74,318	£80,933
Deputy Chief Executives	£90,244	£101,747
Principal Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer	£58,393	£62,302
Chief Accountant	£74,318	£74,318
Group Heads	£74,318	£80,933
Deputy Group Head Customer Relations	£63,654	£69,044
Head of Family Support	£70,947	£70,947
Building Control Manager	£48,884	£57,975
Senior Environmental Health Manager	£54,274	£57,975
Head of Communications and Marketing	£54,274	£57,975
Property Development Manager	£74,000	£74,000

Any restructures during the year or secondments to cover short-term requirements may alter reporting relationships and could change the roles reporting to specific Chief Officer posts, with the appropriate salary range from Spelthorne grades applying.

4.2 Other pay elements for chief officers

A non-pensionable car allowance is applied to the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executives and Group Head posts as part of the total remuneration package. Current car allowance values are £6,521.83 for the Chief Executive and £5,072.48 for the Deputy Chief Executives and Group Heads.

Deputy Group Head posts are eligible for essential user car allowances if they are required to undertake business mileage and provide a car for work.

The salaries for chief officer and Chief Executives / Chief Officers (the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executives, Group Head, Deputy Group Head (and certain professional posts) are inclusive salaries with no additional recompense for additional hours worked, for attendance at Council or other meetings outside of normal working hours, for expenses, for telephone use or for business mileage, except for journeys of 100 miles or more. A mileage rate equivalent to the HMRC

rate for company cars applies (13p per mile for most vehicles) for journeys of 100 miles or more.

Posts listed as deputy chief officers are eligible for car allowances if they are required to undertake business mileage, committee attendance allowance if they are required to attend council or other meetings outside normal working hours, overtime payments if required to work additional hours and they may claim for reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Professional fees required for the post are paid (for example membership of CIPFA for the Chief Finance Officer and legal practising certificate for the monitoring officer).

A separate allowance is paid for the statutory monitoring officer and Section 151 officer duties.

Election fees are paid separately for additional duties and responsibilities undertaken as elections fall. The Chief Executive acts as Returning Officer at elections and other chief officers may receive payments for any additional work undertaken during a national or local election as deputy returning officers, presiding officers or poll clerks at polling stations or for working at the election counts. Election fees are set as elections are called taking account of guidance issued by the Ministry of Justice.

4.3 Remuneration of chief officers on recruitment

Starting salaries are at the bottom of the salary scale, or at an appropriate point taking into account relevant skills and experience.

Chief Executive and Management Team or Group Head approval is required before recruitment to any post below management team level. Approval to fill posts at management team level and for Group Heads requires the agreement of the Leader of the Council, with selection decisions made by a member Appointments Committee and ratified by Council if required (for Chief Executive). New appointments may be eligible for removal expenses under the Council's Home Relocation Policy.

4.4 Increases and additions to remuneration for each chief officer

Pay awards are considered annually for staff including Chief Officer. Spelthorne operate local arrangements for deciding pay awards in consultation and negotiation UNISON, within the limits of the Collective Agreement between UNISON and Spelthorne. Pay awards are decided by full Council as part of the annual budget process. Retention, affordability and local circumstances will be taken into consideration as part of this decision.

Changes to salary ranges and other pay elements must be agreed by the Leader/Council for the Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Leader for Deputy Chief Executive posts and by the Chief Executive and Management Team for all other posts.

4.5 Performance related pay for chief officers

There is no additional performance related pay for Spelthorne chief officers or any other staff. Progression through increments is subject to satisfactory performance. Incremental progression for Deputy Chief Executives is subject to performance and achievement of targets. Once an employee reaches the top of their salary scale there is no opportunity to earn more.

4.6 Bonuses for chief officers

There are no bonuses available for chief officers or for other staff.

4.7 The approach to the payment of chief officers on their ceasing to hold office under or to be employed by the authority

Spelthorne's Discretionary Compensation Policy agreed by the Executive on 6 February 2007 and confirmed by Cabinet in January 2020, sets out the approach for payments in the event of termination on the grounds of redundancy and efficiency of the service. There is a consistent method of calculating redundancy pay which is applied to all redundant employees, including chief officers, with the level of redundancy pay calculated using the statutory matrix with a multiplier of 2 and at actual weekly earnings (to a maximum of 60 weeks' pay for staff with over 20 years local government service). The redundancy payment is intended to recompense employees for the loss of their livelihood and provide financial support whilst they seek alternative employment and applies when a post is deleted. In the case of termination on efficiency grounds payments would depend on the circumstances of the case and would exceed the amount due for redundancy only in exceptional circumstances, to a maximum of 104 weeks.

The Exit Cap Regulations which came into force on 4 November 2020 have been revoked.

Further exit pay and pension reforms are expected to be re-introduced (timing not known). Any exit payments will be in line with any regulations and caps in force at the time.

The taxation of termination payments is in accordance with statutory provisions.

4.8 Additional payments for chief officers

Additional payments may be approved in the case of a chief officer undertaking additional duties for an extended period of time outside the normal responsibilities of their post. For example to undertake additional responsibilities, to cover the duties of a vacant post which is at a higher grade, to undertake additional work in relation to a time-limited project, or where a formal partnership/secondment arrangement is in place with another local authority resulting in additional duties, responsibilities, complexity and working hours and it is not appropriate to otherwise change the grade of the post.

5. The remuneration of the lowest paid employees

The lowest paid employees are those in posts graded at Scale 1, which has a current salary range from £19,489 to £20,361 per annum. The pay rate at the bottom of scale 1 is £10.38 per hour compared to the national minimum wage of £9.18 per hour (National Minimum Wage rate from 1 April 2022 for workers aged 21 to 22 years) and the National Living Wage of £9.50 per hour from April 2022 for workers aged 23 and over. The Living Wage Foundation's non-statutory UK Living Wage for 2021/2022 is £9.90 per hour.

Young people employed as Apprentices for the temporary period of their apprenticeship training are paid on an appropriate pay rate taking into account the level of work and level of qualifications to be obtained with a minimum of the appropriate statutory minimum wage rates [£4.81 per hour Apprentice rate in the first year, The National Minimum Wage rate of £4.81 per hour for under 16-17 year olds, £6.83 per hour for 18 – 20 year olds, £9.18 per hour for 21 – 22 year olds and £9.50 per hour for age 23 and over from 1 April 2022].

6. The relationship between the lowest and highest paid staff

The ratio between the lowest and highest paid salaries is less than 1:7. The lowest salary rate is £19,489, the top of the Chief Executive's salary scale is £127,187 which is a pay multiple of 1:6.52.

7. The relationship between the highest paid employee and employees who are not chief officers

The ratio between the median earnings across the organisation and the taxable pay of the highest paid employee (the Chief Executive) is 1:4.74

The ratio between the mean average earnings across the organisation and the taxable pay of the highest paid employee (the Chief Executive) is 1:4.10

8. Salary and severance payments over £100,000

- 8.1 Spelthorne has three posts with a salary package above £100,000, the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executives. The appointment of a new Chief Executive is made in accordance with the council's Constitution and statutory provisions. There would be a report to members on the arrangements for an appointment, including the salary level, and the appointment would be made by a member Appointments Committee and confirmed after ratification by full Council.
- 8.2 Severance payments are made in accordance with the council's Discretionary Compensation Policy. Redundancy payments are based on the statutory matrix and Spelthorne multiplier to a maximum of 60 weeks' pay. Severance payments on the grounds of efficiency will exceed that level only in exceptional circumstances.

The Exit Cap Regulations which came into force on 4 November 2020 have been revoked.

Further exit pay and pension reforms are expected to be re-introduced (timing not known). Any exit payments will be in line with any regulations and caps in force at the time.

9. The publication of and access to information relating to remuneration of chief officers

The annual pay policy statement is published on the Spelthorne Borough Council website where it can be easily accessed by tax payers and external organisations.

Appendix 1 Pay Policy Statement effective from April 2022

Appendix 2 Discretions Policy

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Use of Substitutes on Council Committees

Key Principles

1. The Council (at its Annual Meeting) will appoint specified substitutes for its committees and sub-committees on the nomination of political group leaders and in accordance with political proportionality rules. See 3 below.
2. For the purposes of this arrangement, the member being substituted is referred to as the “Ordinary Member” and the replacement as the “Substitute Member”.
3. In accordance with 1 above, the allocation of members within each political group available to act as substitutes will be in accordance with the political balance on the committee concerned on the following basis:
 - (a) More than 5 seats on the committee – 3 substitutes
 - (b) Between 2 - 5 seats on the committee – 2 substitutes
 - (c) 1 seat on the committee – 1 substitute
4. The exception to 3 above will be any non-aligned members who may also nominate substitutes from one of the political groups. In this situation, Council has agreed to disapply political proportionality requirements in s15(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1999.
5. Written notice of the substitution must be delivered by the Ordinary Member to the Monitoring Officer and notified to Committee Services, no later than 2 hours before the meeting for which the change in membership is required. This notice must set out the meeting in question, the name of the ordinary member and the name of the substitute member. The substitution will not be valid unless this procedure is followed.
6. With the exception of the arrangement for non-aligned members in 4 above, the substitute member must be a member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the ordinary member who is unable to attend the meeting and must not already be a member of the Committee concerned. The Mayor may not act as a substitute at any Committee meeting.

7. The substitute arrangement must be announced at the beginning of the meeting and recorded in the minutes.
8. If the ordinary member attends after the substitution has been announced at the meeting, the substitute member will continue as the appointed voting member. If the substitute member fails to attend and the ordinary member is present, then the ordinary member may take their place on the committee with full voting rights.
9. Once a meeting has started with the ordinary member in place, no substitution can then be made during the course of the meeting to replace that member.
10. Where a substitute member has attended a meeting which is adjourned, the ordinary member may attend the reconvened meeting as the voting member, provided that the meeting is not part way through the consideration of an item or issue.
11. A member acting as a substitute for the Chair or Vice-Chair of a committee will not, by virtue of that substitution, be entitled to act in either capacity. In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair from a meeting (and the appointment of substitute members to attend in their place) the meeting shall appoint a Chair for the meeting who may be drawn from any members (including any substitute member) present and with voting rights.
12. The substitute member may speak and vote in their own capacity and is not constrained by the views of the ordinary member they are replacing.
13. No substitute member at Regulatory Committees may vote unless they have been present for the entire consideration of the item under discussion.
14. Only members who have received the appropriate training may be appointed to act as substitutes on the Regulatory Committees.
15. Substitute members must receive copies of agendas and reports of the committees they are assigned to at the same time as ordinary members.

Council – 14 July 2022

Appointment of members to the Development Sub-Committee

Recommendation

To appoint the individuals listed below to the Development Sub-Committee

(subject to the membership requirements being amended as part of an earlier agenda item)

Mooney (C)
Beardsmore (C)
C Barratt (C)
I Harvey (C)
Nichols (LD)
Gibson (LD)
HHarvey (USG)
Noble (G)
Sexton (ISG)
J Doran (L)
Siva (BP)
Position allocated under section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

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Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee

Decisions taken at the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 June 2022.

Meeting Time:

7.00 pm

Meeting Venue:

Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XB

PRESENT:

6. ALLOCATION POLICY REVIEW

The Committee **resolved** to approve the revised Allocation Policy

7. DISCRETIONARY £150 COUNCIL ENERGY REBATE SCHEME*

The Committee **resolved** to approve options 1 & 5 as outlined in the report but agreed that the £45 top up in option 5 be increased to £50.

8. HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND PHASE TWO*

The Committee **resolved** to approve the four recommendations outlined in the report.

10. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT POLICY

The Committee **resolved** to recommend to the Corporate Policy & Resources Committee that the Disabled Facility Grant and Better Funding Policy for disabled residents be approved. This was subject to paragraphs 1.9 and 1.10 being removed from the report as this issue is to be brought back to the committee at a later date.

11. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee **resolved** to note the Forward Plan for the business of the committee.

13. LEISURE CENTRE OPERATOR CONTRACT SPECIFICATION (EXEMPT REPORT)*

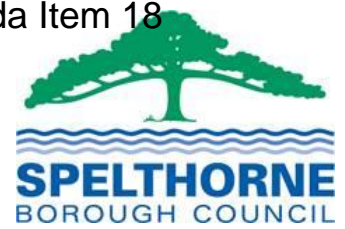
The Committee **resolved** to approve Option 2 as outlined in the report subject to two amendments to the contract concession rates.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Committee are reminded that the "call-in" procedure as set out in Part 4b Reservation Scheme, of the Constitution, shall not apply to the following matters:*
- (a) *Urgent decisions as defined in Paragraph 5. of the Reservation Scheme*
 - (b) *Those decisions:*
 - i. *reserved to full Council*
 - ii. *on regulatory matters*

iii. on member conduct issues.

- (2) Those matters to which Note (1) applies, if any, are identified with an asterisk [*] in the above Minutes.
- (3) Within three working days of the date on which this decision is published, not less than three members from two or more political groups by written notice or e mail may ask for that decision to be referred to the next Council meeting for review and final determination (call-in). This notice must be received by the Proper Officer by 5pm three working days after publication of the decision.
- (4) When calling in a decision for review the members doing so should in their notice of "call in":
 - (a) set out the decision/matter which the members exercising the right of reservation require to be reserved,
 - (b) specify the names of the members who have exercised the right of reservation, and
 - (c) the reasons why the decision should be referred to Council.
- (6) Once the request for 'reservation' has been deemed valid by the Proper Officer the matter will be suspended unless and until it has been approved at the meeting of the Council to which it was referred.
- (7) The deadline of three working days for "call in" in relation to the above decisions by the Committee is the close of business on **21 June 2022**.



Economic Development Committee

Decisions taken at the meeting held on Thursday, 9 June 2022.

Meeting Time:

7.00 pm

Meeting Venue:

Council Chamber, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 1XB

PRESENT: Councillor Colin Barnard (Chairman), Councillor Tom Fidler (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Chris Bateson, Councillor Vivienne Leighton and Councillor Malcolm Beecher

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

There were none.

3. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

4. WARD ISSUES

There were none.

5. SHARED PROSPERITY FUND*

The Committee **resolved** to:

- 1) Agree that an Investment Plan is developed
- 2) Agree to set up a Shared Prosperity Fund Task Group and agree the draft terms of reference
- 3) Recommend that a final report on the Investment Plan is submitted to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee for decision on 11 July 2022.

6. CORPORATE RECOVERY PLAN

The Committee **resolved** to note the update in relation to the recovery plan.

7. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS GRANT ALLOCATIONS

The Committee **resolved** to note the update in relation to the allocation of ARG funding to businesses within the borough.

8. SURREY DELIVERY BOARD (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE) - VERBAL UPDATE

The Committee **resolved** to note the verbal update on the Surrey Delivery Board.

9. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee **resolved** to note the forward plan subject to the additional items agreed at the meeting.

10. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to discuss.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Committee are reminded that the "call-in" procedure as set out in Part 4b Reservation Scheme, of the Constitution, shall not apply to the following matters:*
 - (a) *Urgent decisions as defined in Paragraph 5. of the Reservation Scheme*
 - (b) *Those decisions:*
 - i. *reserved to full Council*
 - ii. *on regulatory matters*
 - iii. *on member conduct issues.*
- (2) *Those matters to which Note (1) applies, if any, are identified with an asterisk [*] in the above Minutes.*
- (3) *Within three working days of the date on which this decision is published, not less than three members from two or more political groups by written notice or e mail may ask for that decision to be referred to the next Council meeting for review and final determination (call-in). This notice must be received by the Proper Officer by 5pm three working days after publication of the decision.*
- (4) *When calling in a decision for review the members doing so should in their notice of "call in":*
 - (a) *set out the decision/matter which the members exercising the right of reservation require to be reserved,*
 - (b) *specify the names of the members who have exercised the right of reservation, and*
 - (c) *the reasons why the decision should be referred to Council.*
- (6) *Once the request for 'reservation' has been deemed valid by the Proper Officer the matter will be suspended unless and until it has been approved at the meeting of the Council to which it was referred.*
- (7) *The deadline of three working days for "call in" in relation to the above decisions by the Committee is the close of business on 15 June 2022.*



Environment and Sustainability Committee

Decisions taken at the meeting held on Tuesday, 10 May 2022.

Meeting Time:

7.00 pm

Meeting Venue:

Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XB

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Beardsmore (Chairman), Councillor Olivia Rybinski (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Maureen Attewell, Councillor Malcolm Beecher, Councillor John Doran, Councillor Tom Fidler, Councillor Nick Gething, Councillor Kathy Grant, Councillor Sinead Mooney, Councillor Joanne Sexton and Councillor Richard Dunn

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

2. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were 3 questions from members of the public. These were raised during the relevant agenda items.

3. PRESENTATION - CLIMATE CHANGE

The Committee received a presentation on climate change.

4. GIF BID - COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

The Committee **resolved** to approve funding of £9,995 for 2022 to provide funding for a climate communications package from Hubbub.

5. GIF BID - SUSTAINABILITY ADVICE FOR THE LOCAL PLAN AND SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS.

The Committee **resolved** to approve funding of £5,200 for the provision of advice from APSE to support the creation of robust supplementary planning documents for the Local Plan.

6. GREENER FUTURES DELIVERY PLAN

The Committee **resolved**:

1. To support the Greener Futures Climate Change Delivery Plan 2021-25 and delegate authority to the Group Head for Commissioning and Transformation, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, to notify Surrey County Council of this.
2. To commit to continue to work with other organisations including Surrey-wide local authorities to address climate change.

7. STAINES CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. Agree the draft updated Staines Conservation Area Appraisal for consultation
2. Agree to go out to 6 weeks public consultation on the proposed amendments to the Conservation Area
3. Delegate authority to the Group Head Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, to approve the

final document, taking account of comments, as required, which arise from the consultation.

8. INDICATIVE AIR QUALITY MODELLING FOR THE AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

The Committee **resolved** to note the report.

9. URGENT BUSINESS

The Committee resolved to add an item to the forward plan regarding the addition of carbon calculations to planning submissions, in particular for future developments owned by the Council or KGE Ltd but also to request similar information from developers.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Committee are reminded that the "call-in" procedure as set out in Part 4b Reservation Scheme, of the Constitution, shall not apply to the following matters:*
 - (a) *Urgent decisions as defined in Paragraph 5. of the Reservation Scheme*
 - (b) *Those decisions:*
 - i. *reserved to full Council*
 - ii. *on regulatory matters*
 - iii. *on member conduct issues.*
- (2) *Those matters to which Note (1) applies, if any, are identified with an asterisk [*] in the above Minutes.*
- (3) *Within three working days of the date on which this decision is published, not less than three members from two or more political groups by written notice or e mail may ask for that decision to be referred to the next Council meeting for review and final determination (call-in). This notice must be received by the Proper Officer by 5pm three working days after publication of the decision.*
- (4) *When calling in a decision for review the members doing so should in their notice of "call in":*
 - (a) *set out the decision/matter which the members exercising the right of reservation require to be reserved,*
 - (b) *specify the names of the members who have exercised the right of reservation, and*
 - (c) *the reasons why the decision should be referred to Council.*
- (6) *Once the request for 'reservation' has been deemed valid by the Proper Officer the matter will be suspended unless and until it has been approved at the meeting of the Council to which it was referred.*
- (7) *The deadline of three working days for "call in" in relation to the above decisions by the Committee is the close of business on Thursday 19 May 2022.*

Decisions taken at the meeting held on Tuesday, 5 July 2022.

Meeting Time:

7.00 pm

Meeting Venue:

Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XB

5. ULTRA-LOW EMISSIONS ZONE FOR LONDON*

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. note the contents of the report and its appendices,
2. approve the submission of Spelthorne Borough Council's response to Transport for London's consultation on the expansion of the London Ultra-low Emission Zone,
3. approve options 2 and 3 as outlined in the report, which are for the submission of Spelthorne's response to the Transport for London Ultra-low Emission Zone consultation team and the lobbying options outlined; and
4. permission be granted to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, to make minor amendments to Spelthorne Borough Council's response to the consultation if the need arises.

6. GRANT FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC TAXIS*

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. grant approval for an amended project scheme to provide a contribution towards the purchase of Hackney Carriages and private hire vehicles as referred to in the report,
2. delegate authority to the Group Head for Commissioning and Transformation to complete negotiations with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) with a view to the amended Council project being approved,
3. delegate authority to approve an amended grant agreement with DEFRA to the Monitoring Officer and Group Head of Commissioning and Transformation in consultation with the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee; and

4. authorise the Group Head of Corporate Governance to enter into appropriate agreements with bid partners and third parties required to deliver the amended project.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Committee are reminded that the “call-in” procedure as set out in Part 4b Reservation Scheme, of the Constitution, shall not apply to the following matters:*
 - (a) *Urgent decisions as defined in Paragraph 5. of the Reservation Scheme*
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- (6) *Once the request for ‘reservation’ has been deemed valid by the Proper Officer the matter will be suspended unless and until it has been approved at the meeting of the Council to which it was referred.*
- (7) *The deadline of three working days for "call in" in relation to the above decisions by the Committee is the close of business on **11 July 2022.***



Neighbourhood Services and Enforcement Committee

Decisions taken at the meeting held on Thursday, 30 June 2022.

Meeting Time:

7.00 pm

Meeting Venue:

Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XB

PRESENT: Councillor John Doran (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Councillor Richard Dunn, Councillor Vivienne Leighton, Councillor Bernie Spoor and Councillor Stuart Whitmore

1. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTES

Apologies were received from Councillor Joanne Sexton, Councillor Clare Barratt, and Councillor Richard Barratt.

Councillor Denise Saliagopoulos was nominated to attend as Councillor Sexton's substitute. She attended the meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams but was not allowed to vote.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

5. WARD ISSUES

There were none.

6. FOOD AND HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLANS FOR 2022/24*

The Committee **resolved** to adopt both proposed service plans for 2022/2024.

7. CCTV MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AWARD*

The Committee **resolved** to authorise the Group Head of Neighbourhood Services to enter a contract with Runnymede Borough Council for the monitoring and maintenance of its on-street CCTV equipment for an initial period of 3 year with the option to extend for a further 2 years in two 12-month extension periods.

8. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee **resolved** to note the Forward Plan subject to the changes agreed at the meeting.

9. URGENT ITEM - ASHFORD MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK*

The Chair agreed to the consideration of this item, in accordance with paragraph (4)(b) of Section 100B of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following reason:

"It is in the public interest to consider, at the earliest available opportunity, whether the multi-storey car park in Ashford should be reopened following vandalism that has now made it unsafe to operate without repairs. Urgent consideration is therefore required on whether it is necessary to repair and re-open the car park, or agree that it should remain closed, pending the formulation of future proposals for redevelopment of the site."

The Committee **resolved** to agree the Ashford Multi-Storey Car Park should remain closed.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Committee are reminded that the "call-in" procedure as set out in Part 4b Reservation Scheme, of the Constitution, shall not apply to the following matters:*
 - (a) *Urgent decisions as defined in Paragraph 5. of the Reservation Scheme*
 - (b) *Those decisions:*
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 - (c) *the reasons why the decision should be referred to Council.*
- (6) *Once the request for 'reservation' has been deemed valid by the Proper Officer the matter will be suspended unless and until it has been approved at the meeting of the Council to which it was referred.*
- (7) *The deadline of three working days for "call in" in relation to the above decisions by the Committee is the close of business on 6 July 2022.*

Report of the Chairman on the Work of the Planning Committee

This report gives an overview of the key items considered by the Committee at its meetings on 27 April 2022, 01 June 2022 and 29 June 2022.

1. Planning Committee Meeting – 27 April 2022

1.1 The Committee considered two applications.

1.2 Application No. 21/01801/FUL, Sunbury Cross Ex-Servicemen's Association Club, Crossways, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 7BG - This application was for the demolition of the existing Sunbury Ex-Servicemen's Association Club and redevelopment of site including the erection of two residential buildings of 5-storeys and 8-storeys comprising 47 flats with associated car parking, cycle storage, landscaping and other associated works.

1.3 The application was **approved**.

1.4 Application No. 20/01555/FUL, Land to the north of Hanworth Road, (Lok 'n' Store and Johnson and Johnson) – This application was for the demolition of existing buildings and structures and redevelopment of the site to include the erection of two new commercial buildings. Unit 1 to be Class B8 use and Unit 2 to be for flexible use within Classes B2, B8 and/or light industrial (Class E). A revised junction layout (A316 slip lane) and associated parking, servicing, landscaping and access and infrastructure works.

1.5 The application was **approved**.

2.0 Planning Committee Meeting – 01 June 2022

2.1 The Committee considered one application.

2.2 Application No 21/01772/FUL, Former Debenhams, 37-45 High Street, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4QU – This application was for the demolition of the former Debenhams Store and redevelopment of the site to provide 226 Build-to-Rent dwellings (Use Class C3) and commercial units (Use Class E) together with car and cycle parking, hard and soft landscaping, amenity space and other associated infrastructure and works.

2.3 The application was **refused**.

3.0 Planning Committee Meeting – 29 June 2022

3.1 The Committee considered two applications.

3.2 Application No 22/00591/FUL, Renshaw Industrial Estate, Mill Mead, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4UQ – This application was for the demolition and redevelopment to provide two new buildings (5-11 storeys) comprising build-to-rent residential apartments (Use Class C3) including affordable housing, alongside ancillary residential areas (flexible gym, activity space, concierge and residents lounge) and landscaping, public realm, children’s play area, bin storage, plant areas and car and cycle parking.

3.3 This application was **approved**.

3.4 Application No 22/00589/HOU, 44 Chaucer Road, Ashford, TW15 2QT.
This application was brought before the Committee as the applicant was an employee of Spelthorne Borough Council and was for an erection of a single storey side extension and a single storey rear extension.

3.5 This application was **approved**.

Councillor N Gething
Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee

01 July 2022

Report of the Chair on the work of the Standards Committee

The Standards Committee met on 22 June 2022.

1. Update on Member Complaints following the previous update on the 16th March 2022:
 - a) The Interim Monitoring Officer introduced their report. This included observations relating to recent complaint hearings and the high number of complaints being submitted.
 - b) A proposal for training sessions was described to the committee.
 - c) There was a brief discussion regarding the appropriate use of social media and how concerns could be raised without engaging formal standards processes.

Ian Winter
Independent Chair of the Standards Committee

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Questions from councillors

Question 1 – Councillor Robin Sider BEM

(received 13/6/22 at 18:37)

“The Shepperton Village Fair is the largest community event in the borough attracting a throughput of between eight and nine thousand people each year, and in the past many years ago was the leading event in what was called the Spelthorne Fortnight. The council have insisted on security and a no alcohol policy as a result of an incident which took place some 10 years ago on the river bank two hours after the Fair had closed and was nothing to do with the Fair in any way shape or form. The cost of security is now £2000 which the volunteer Fair committee endeavour to raise. At the Fair this year on the 11th of June, two men were found to be drinking wine in Manor Park close to the main public access corner to the park. They were asked to stop drinking and informed that there was a No Alcohol policy in place and asked to move off site. They refused, and when Security insisted they comply, they showed signs of escalation. They were told that the police would be called but showed no concern. After a further warning, and in consultation with the Chairman of the Fair committee, security called 999 for assistance. At the end of a 15-minute conversation with the police, the police told them that this was nothing to do with them unless public order was breached, that no law had been broken, and it was up to the council to prosecute. Since the Chairman did not wish the incident to escalate to the point of public disorder and possible violence in the middle of families enjoying themselves, he agreed to Security backing off, whereby the men continued drinking. One of the duties of the security company is to monitor any violation of the No Alcohol policy. It now seems that this policy is unenforceable either by the Fairs security contractors who this year were former Gurkhas, or the police, and is a policy which has no impact on anyone who chooses to ignore it.

Will the Leader of this council share my concerns that this incident could well have escalated into public disorder and that police should have attended in the interest of public safety?”

Question 2 – Councillor Robin Sider BEM

(received 20/6/22 at 17:02)

“In an email of the 8th of June 2022, emanating from the Head of Communications at Spelthorne Council, all councillors were advised that on the 9th of June, Ashford Multi Storey Car Park would be closed until further notice because of recent substantial vandalism, that meant that it was now not safe for residents to use. In its communication to residents for such action, the council apologised for such closure, and went on to say ‘ The car park at Church Road has been the subject of targeted and systematic vandalism which has resulted in significant damage to the fire doors, stairs, shutters, barriers and lighting’. In conclusion, a council spokesperson added ‘We are very sorry for the inconvenience that this will cause for some people but hope that everyone will understand that we had no choice in the matter.

In view of the foregoing, can the Leader of the Council inform me what action has been taken by the police to combat such wanton vandalism and destruction of council property?”

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