

**Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee
17 July 2023**

Present:

Councillor J.R. Sexton (Chair)
Councillor C. Bateson (Vice-Chair)

Councillors:

M. Beecher	S.M. Doran	O. Rybinski
J.R. Boughtflower	K.M. Grant	K. Rutherford
J. Button	K. Howkins	H.R.D. Williams
J.T.F. Doran	L. E. Nichols	

Substitutions: Councillors S.A. Dunn

76/23 Apologies and Substitutes

Apologies were received from Councillors Attewell, Gibson and Lee.

Councillor Dunn was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Gibson.

The Committee were advised that Councillor Nichols would be attending the meeting late due to a prior commitment.

77/23 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 26 and 29 June 2023 were agreed as a correct record of proceedings.

78/23 Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Nichols declared an interest in Item 12, Knowle Green Estates Ltd in that was the Council's representative on the Knowle Green Estates Board.

He advised that he would not be voting on this item.

Councillor Sexton declared that she was also a Surrey County Councillor.

79/23 Questions from members of the Public

There were none.

80/23 Establishment Review

The Committee considered a report on the Corporate Establishment Review that was undertaken by South East Employers (SEE). Jennifer McNeil, Regional Director of SEE presented her findings to the Committee.

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

81/23 LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Outline Action Plan

The Committee considered the proposed Outline Action Plan that sought to address the 12 recommendations from the Local Government Association (LGA) following the completion of their Corporate Peer Challenge.

The Committee were advised that the LGA team would need to come back to the Council in September 2023 and complete their report by the end of November 2023.

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. Agree the proposed Outline Action Plan as outlined in the report to address the 12 recommendations from the Local Government Association; and
2. Agree to the subsequent development of a Detailed Action Plan.

82/23 Commercial Assets Sub-Committee

Councillor Nichols entered the Chamber at 20:16

The Committee considered a report that sought approval for the creation of a new Commercial Assets Sub-Committee with associated Terms of Reference and the changes to the Terms of Reference for the existing Development Sub-Committee.

The Committee agreed in principle to the creation of a Commercial Assets Sub-Committee but wanted to look at its Terms of Reference again and alongside this look at the revisions needed to the Terms of Reference for the Development Sub-Committee. A focus group would be set up that would consist of members and officers to look at both Terms of Reference and report back to this Committee with their recommendations. If additional professional advice was needed, the Committee agreed to undertake a procurement exercise to employ an external consultant.

The Committee **resolved** to:

1. Create a Commercial Assets Sub-Committee
2. Delegate authority to the Development Sub-Committee to revisit the Terms of Reference for the Commercial Assets Sub-Committee and to revise its own Terms of Reference and to take any professional advice as required; and
3. Delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to consider any constitutional changes that are required.

83/23 Treasury Management Outturn

The Committee considered a Treasury Management Annual Outturn Report 2022/23.

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

84/23 Forward Plan

The Committee **resolved** to note the contents of the Forward Plan with the following addition:

'Review of Consultants Working within Spelthorne Borough Council'.

85/23 Urgent Actions

There were none.

86/23 Exclusion of Public & Press (Exempt Business)

It was proposed by Councillor Beecher and Seconded by Councillor Bateson and **resolved** that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) because it was likely to disclose information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because, disclosure to the public would prejudice the financial position of the authority in being able to undertake even-handed negotiations and finalising acceptable contract terms:

Item 12 – Knowle Green Estates Ltd

Item 13 – Licensing Policy for Houses in Multiple Occupation

87/23 Knowle Green Estates Limited

The Committee **resolved** to approve the recommendations as outlined in the exempt report in respect of Knowle Green Estates Limited.

88/23 Housing In Multiple Occupation Licensing Fees

The Committee considered a report that sought approval for mandatory licensing for houses in multiple occupation.

The Committee **resolved** to approve the recommendations as outlined in the exempt report in respect of the Mandatory Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation.