

CHILTERN AND SOUTH BUCKS JOINT COMMITTEE

Meeting - 26 October 2015

Present: Mrs Darby (Chairman), Mr Anthony, Mr Bagge, Mr Naylor, Mrs Sullivan, Mr Harris, Mr Martin, Mr M Smith and Mr Wilson

Apologies for absence: Mr Egleton and Mr Stannard

39. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on 20 July 2015 were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

41. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED –

That under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

42. PLANNING POLICY SHARED SERVICE REVIEW

The Head of Sustainable Development presented a report to the Joint Committee which sought reconsideration of the outcome of the Planning Policy Shared Service Review approved by the Joint Committee at its meeting of 16 July 2014 following changed circumstances, principally the government introducing new measures to speed up the preparation of local plans.

Both Chiltern and South Bucks cabinets recently (20th and 13th October respectively) considered reports to review their respective local development schemes in the light of new government objectives. The recommendation from both cabinets to their respective councils in November is to approve the preparation of a joint Chiltern and South Bucks local plan. The cabinets also resolved to ask the Joint Committee to reconsider the outcome of the July 2014 Planning Policy Shared Service Review with a view to setting up a shared planning policy team to deliver a joint local plan, subject to both Councils agreeing to the preparation of a joint local plan.

It was explained that if both Councils agreed to a joint local plan then the recommendation was to deliver the joint plan (and all other planning policy work) from a single shared planning policy team in one location and the cost was to be split 50 / 50 between Councils and delegated authority be approved for the Head of Sustainable Development.

RESOLVED:

- i) Agree subject to staff and Unison consultation that a revised Shared Planning Policy Service be implemented by bringing together the staff resources from both councils planning policy teams into a single team to be located at King George V House, Amersham in order to deliver a joint**

local plan to cover Chiltern and South Bucks districts and to undertake all other planning policy functions for the two councils.

- ii) In order to deliver the Shared Planning Policy Service under Recommendation 1 above, agree that all Planning Policy staff be shared to work across the two local authority areas as required.**
- iii) Agree to an equal (i.e. 50% and 50%) inter-authority split to cover revenue costs for the shared Planning Policy service.**
- iv) Agree Chiltern District Council will be the lead authority for budget management with South Bucks District Council contributing annually for its share of the estimated costs.**

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- i) Delegate authority to the Head of Sustainable Development to carry out staff and Unison consultation, consider the consultation responses, determine the review outcome in consultation with both council cabinet members for Sustainable Development and Personnel Committees Chairmen and to carry out all necessary action to implement the Planning Policy shared service.**

The meeting terminated at 5.13 pm