

**CABINET****Tuesday, 9th February, 2016**

Present:-

Councillor Burrows (Chair)

Councillors T Gilby  
T Murphy  
BlankCouncillors Huckle  
Ludlow  
A DioufNon Voting Members Bagley  
J Innes  
BrownHollingworth  
Wall

\*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

**145 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS  
RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

**146 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Serjeant.

**147 MINUTES****RESOLVED –**

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 26 January, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**148 FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 March – 30 June, 2016 was reported for information.

**\*RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

**149**     **DELEGATION REPORT**

Decisions taken by Cabinet Members during January were reported.

**\* RESOLVED –**

That the Delegation Report be noted.

**150**     **CIVIC ARRANGEMENTS 2016 - 17**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report to confirm arrangements for the civic year 2016/17 in respect of the election of the Deputy Mayor for 2016/17, the Annual Council Meeting and Civic Dinner, and Civic Service for 2016.

Each year the Council is asked to confirm its civic arrangements for the forthcoming municipal year, namely the appointment of Deputy Mayor, the date of the Annual Council meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the associated civic events. The appointment of Deputy Mayor as Vice Chairman of the Council is a statutory appointment under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972. In the case of a Borough Council the Vice Chairman is entitled to use the title of Deputy Mayor.

The report also proposed increasing the charge made to guests attending the civic dinner, (subject to the exceptions agreed by Cabinet at minute no. 203, 2012/13), from £25 to £30 per head, and that in future years the council should move to recharging the full costs of the annual council dinner.

**RESOLVED -**

1.     That it be recommended to Council that Councillor Maureen Davenport be invited to become Deputy Mayor of the Borough for 2016/17.
- \*2.    That it be noted that the Annual Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 May 2016, followed by a civic reception at the Winding Wheel.
- \*3.    That the proposed charging arrangements for the annual council dinner at paragraph 5.4 of the officer's report be approved.

- \*4. That it be noted that the Annual Civic Service and Procession will be held on Saturday 14 May 2016.

## **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

To enable the Council to confirm civic arrangements for 2016/17.

### **151 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FEES AND CHARGES 2016 -17**

The Senior Environmental Health Officer submitted a report recommending for approval proposed fees and charges for various environmental health functions, including Pest Control, Dog Control and Fixed Penalty Levels, for 2016/17. The proposed fees and charges were outlined in Appendix A of the report.

The fees and charges proposals had taken into account:

- the general principles that govern the Council's approach to charging;
- the demand for, and income received from these services, especially since the introduction of a charge in April 2014 for treatment of pests posing a significant public health risk;
- a comparison of fees and charges made by other authorities in Derbyshire;
- the recommendation from the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum's review on how the council offers concessions on fees and charges, and approved by Cabinet, that concessions for pest control services should be reduced from 50% to 20%.

### **\*RESOLVED –**

1. That the proposed fees and charges for Environmental Health Services, as set out in Appendix A of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April, 2016.
2. That a full cost accounting/cost analysis is carried out of the Pest Control and Dog Services.

3. That the Senior Environmental Health Officer is delegated the authority to offer reduced charges for the micro-chipping of dogs at promotional events and campaigns from 1 April, 2016.

## **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

To set the environmental health fees and charges for 2016/17.

## **152 PROPOSED CHANGES TO SUPPORT SERVICES AT SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEMES**

The Housing Service Manager, Customer Division submitted a report to advise members on proposed changes to how support services were provided at the council's Sheltered Housing schemes in response to the loss of funding currently received from Derbyshire County Council to operate the schemes.

Due to severe budget cuts to Derbyshire County Council's funding, they had decided that after a consultation process with stakeholders, to withdraw the funding for support for residents in sheltered accommodation from April 2016. This change had consequently resulted in a significant loss of income for the Council as a provider of sheltered accommodation, and had created a situation that if support was going to continue being offered to residents in sheltered schemes it would need to be provided using the funding the council received for providing floating support services.

The Housing Service Manager advised that a number of measures had been identified in order to manage and mitigate the effect of the cut to funding received by the council. It was proposed that the role of Sheltered Scheme Manager is deleted and the tasks they currently undertook were provided either in a different way, or by other means.

It was proposed that support for residents in sheltered schemes would be provided by the Support Officers who currently provide support to tenants in non-sheltered accommodation. Support packages would then be established on the basis each individual resident's needs, rather than support being offered, as it was currently, using a 'one size fits all' approach to residents in sheltered schemes. A named Support Officer would in future be assigned to each sheltered housing scheme so as to ensure consistency in that all of the tenants in the scheme would see the same Officer.

A new post of Social Inclusion Officer was proposed, to organise, facilitate and coordinate activities across the schemes, as well as in the outlying community rooms managed by the Housing Service. The Housing Service Manager advised that the opportunity was being taken to re-energise and modernise this area of service provision, and that by providing activities in this way it would enable the provision of activities which would not have been viable to provide for an individual scheme, for example guest speakers and book clubs. The Housing Service Manager also provided details of how the cleaning of communal areas and general building checks would be carried out in the absence of a scheme manager.

The report contained details of the consultation process that had taken place with residents and their families regarding the challenges presented to the service provision as a result of the loss of funding from Derbyshire County Council. A summary of responses received was also included in the report.

The Housing Service Manager noted that while the proposed changes aimed to mitigate the impact of the cuts in funding, and had addressed all the concerns raised by residents and their families during the consultation process, it needed to be recognised that the proposed new service would not be the same as the current one, and therefore would not in respect of some aspects be able deliver the same levels of support to residents.

#### **\*RESOLVED -**

That the changes to Support Services at the Council's Sheltered Housing Schemes, as detailed in section 5 of the officer's report, be implemented from 1 April , 2016.

#### **REASON FOR DECISION**

To manage and mitigate the impact of the reductions in funding to this service area and to still continue to provide a good, financially viable service.