

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, CULTURE, TOURISM & CLIMATE CHANGE** held on 3 September 2021.

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor B Lewis

Also in attendance – Councillor S Hobson

Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

10/21 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

11/21 **MEMBERS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SCHEME** Approval was sought for the allocation of additional resources to the Members' Community Leadership Scheme (MCLS) to enable Members to support local communities in supporting recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Scheme allocated to each of the 64 County Councillors an annual fund of £3,860 which could be used to support local projects and activities in their Divisions.

On 23 April 2020, Cabinet approved a report which had provided an additional allocation of £3,860 to Members to support their local communities throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, assisting with the recovery and delivery of social, economic, health, environmental and cultural services to support quality of life in communities.

The Council recognised that communities had had a pivotal role during the pandemic and the Council Plan ambition was to ensure that the Council continued to work with communities, sharing responsibility for improving their areas and supporting each other. It was vital to support residents and communities through a period of recovery following the pandemic. Therefore, it was proposed that each Elected Member was provided with a further £3,860 making a total of £7,720 available during the current financial year. However, it should be noted that any unspent balance of the additional £3,860 cannot be carried forward into the next financial year.

In addition to the additional amount of £3,860, it was proposed that a further sum £1,500 be made available for the financial year 2022-23 commencing on 1 April 2022, which Members can allocate to communities for specific projects to support celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This allocation must be spent in the 2022-23 financial year. Members would submit applications using the same process as was currently in place.

RESOLVED to approve (1) the allocation of additional resources to the Members Community Leadership Scheme by providing an additional £3,860 to each Elected Member as detailed; and

(2) the allocation of additional resources to the Members Community Leadership Scheme by providing an additional £1,500 to each Elected Member in the financial year 2022-23 for specific projects to support celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

12/21 **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES** On 26 May 2021 Council approved the list of outside body appointments. Any in-year changes to the list could be agreed by the Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change and the Council had been made aware of changes which needed to be approved as detailed below:

- (a) To replace Councillor N Atkin with Councillor J Woolley as the Council's representative on the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Royal Hospital Trust
- (b) To insert Councillor R George as the minority group representative on the Derbyshire Schools Forum
- (c) To delete Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust from the list as a County Council representative is no longer required
- (d) To replace Councillor A Sutton with Councillor T Ainsworth as the Council's representative on Derby and Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre – Sinfin Community Liaison Group (CLG)
- (e) To replace Councillor B Lewis (Leader of the Council) with Councillor S Spencer (Deputy Leader of the Council) on the Waste Management Contracts Board
- (f) To delete Barlborough Heritage and Resource Centre as a County Council representative is no longer required
- (g) To replace Councillor N Hoy with Councillor J Barron on Bolsover Woodland Enterprise
- (h) To replace Councillor A Sutton with Councillor T Ainsworth on the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Treatment Community Liaison Group
- (i) To amend the appointments to Belper Leisure Centre Board to one member representative as the Board no longer requires a Director representative; and Councillor J Nelson be appointed as the County Council's representative;

- (j) To replace Councillors K S Athwal and D Muller with Councillors G Hickton and N Gourlay on Derbyshire Information Advice and Support service for SEND
- (k) To insert Councillor J Dixon as the minority group representative director on MEGZ Limited
- (l) To replace Councillor M Ford on the John Allsop Education Foundation with Ms C Heywood, agreed community representative
- (m) To add Bowden Head School Foundation (also known as Chapel-en-le-Frith Educational Foundation) to the outside body list and appoint Councillors N Gourlay and L Grooby as the County Council's representatives

RESOLVED that the amendments to the appointments to outside bodies detailed above be approved.

13/21 PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT SUBMISSION OF AN OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE TO CREATE AN EAST MIDLANDS FREEPORT

(Councillor Steve Bull, the Chairman of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - Places had agreed that call-in should be waived on the basis that the decision proposed was reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency due to the nature of the decision required and the timescales involved).

In February 2020, the Government had launched a consultation on proposals to create a limited number of freeports across the UK to help 'level up' under-performing regions, promote regeneration and generate innovation and international trade. In late November 2020, a bidding prospectus was launched that set out further details on the freeport model and related bidding process.

Work to develop a freeport proposal was led by the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire (D2N2) local enterprise partnership (LEP), working with colleagues in Leicestershire County Council (LCC), Leicestershire District Council (LDC) and the Leicestershire LEP. The freeport proposal for the East Midlands constituted the following sites:

- The East Midlands Airport (EMA) as the main customs site
- Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station in Rushcliffe
- East Midlands Intermodal Park (EMIP) site at Burnaston in South Derbyshire.

Further to the approval by the Cabinet Member – Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism on 4 February 2021, an expression of interest for the East Midlands Freeport was made to MHCLG on 5 February 2021 and Government confirmed the region had been shortlisted as one of 13 potential freeports in April 2021. The East Midlands Freeport Board now had to submit

an OBC by 10 September 2021; this would be evaluated by MHCLG and successful OBCs would then be required to develop a Full Business Case (FBC) for submission on 12 November 2021.

Further to confirmation of the shortlist, Government had produced additional guidance and feedback on the initial expressions of interest for each Freeport partnership. That guidance included a requirement that a local authority was identified to lead the development of the OBC (Lead Authority). Through discussion, it was agreed that LCC should provide that function for the Freeport given that the critical port of entry for customs and tax was in the County of Leicestershire. Government also confirmed seed funding of approximately £25m to the East Midlands Freeport to support mobilisation costs and the development of detailed proposals and spending plans within the business case; essentially, the seed fund was constrained to capital spend and driving delivery of key components in the short term, and at pace.

Following confirmation of LCC as lead authority considerable progress had been made, specifically the establishment of interim governance arrangements to oversee preparation of the Freeport proposals and work to progress development of the OBC. These arrangements were highlighted.

At the time of writing, the final version of the OBC was not available, but a draft OBC was attached to the report as an exempt appendix. The version of the OBC in the Exempt Appendix was subject to amendment at the Freeport Board on 2 September 2021 and through the working groups, ahead of submission to Government by 10 September 2021. An update on the decision of the Freeport Board on 2 September and any amended version of the OBC was provided to the Cabinet Member at the meeting along with the implications for Derbyshire County Council, in particular with regard to highways improvements.

More detailed work would need to take place prior to submission of the full business case (FBC) regarding traffic impact assessment and the potential implications of the collective Freeport proposals on the wider highway network, including the A50 and junctions 23a to 24a of the M1. Also, to fully articulate the economic case around skills development and investment strategies in support of the levelling up agenda. The OBC did not however, commit the Council to expenditure at this stage and the risks in respect of the Council's key considerations were either dealt with in the OBC or would be the subject of further detailed work in the FBC. The OBC submission also set out governance arrangements and it was also proposed that the Leader of the Council would continue as the representative at the Freeport Board.

RESOLVED (1) to note the overview of progress and proposals outlined in the report and the current draft Outline Business Case for the East Midlands Freeport attached at Appendix 2 in the exempt section of the meeting;

(2) that subject to due consideration of the final draft and any amendments from the EMF Board, delegated authority be given to the Executive Director - Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to endorse the final Outline Business Case, ahead of submission to Government by 10 September 2021;

(3) to agree that a further report to consider the Full Business Case and any implications for the County Council be submitted to Cabinet for consideration, should the Outline Business Case bid be taken forward by Government; and

(4) that the sign-off stage of the Business Case be delegated to the Managing Executive Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

14/21 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED** that under Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that in view of the nature of the items of business, that if members of the public were present, exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed to them.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2021 (contains exempt information)
2. To consider the exempt appendices of the proposal to support submission of an Outline Business Case to create East Midlands Freeport (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))

Meeting start time: 10.00am
Meeting end time: 10.35am