

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**EXECUTIVE
MINUTES****Date: Tuesday 29 May 2012****Time: 18.00 hrs.****Place: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage SG1 1HN**

Present: Councillors S Taylor CC (Chair), J Gardner,
S Batson MBE DL , H Burrell, R Henry, R Raynor
and A Webb.

Start/End Time: Start Time: 18.00 hrs.
End Time: 18.55hrs.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF
INTEREST**

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor Mrs Joan Lloyd.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES – EXECUTIVE – 10 APRIL 2012

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE BODIES

Consideration was given to the appointment of three Executive bodies that would have delegated authority for specified aspects of Executive decision making.

It was **RESOLVED** that following bodies be appointed with the terms of reference set out on the agenda with the membership detailed below -

3(A) Joint Consultative Committee (Employer Side)

Chairman -Executive Member - Resources (Councillor Mrs Joan Lloyd)
Councillor J Gardner
Councillor R Raynor
Councillor A Webb

3 (B) Appeals, Grievances & Litigation Panel

Chairman - Executive Member - Resources (Councillor Mrs Joan Lloyd)

Councillor J Gardner
Councillor R Raynor
Councillor S Taylor

3 (C) Stevenage, North Herts. and East Herts. Joint CCTV Committee

SBC Lead - Executive Member - Safer and Stronger Communities
(Councillor R Henry)
Councillor Mrs Joan Lloyd
Councillor A Webb

3 (D) Stevenage and East Herts. Joint Executive Revenues and
Benefits Shared Service Committee

SBC Lead - Executive Member – Resources (Councillor Mrs Joan
Lloyd)
Councillor S Batson MBE DL
Councillor A Webb

4. MINUTES – DEVELOPMENT & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

It was **RESOLVED** :

1. That the Minutes of the following meetings for the Development & Scrutiny Committees be noted -
 - a. Resources – 29 March 2012
 - b. Safer and Stronger Communities – 2 April 2012
2. That in addition to receiving the minutes of formal meetings the Executive also receive quarterly reports on Development and Scrutiny work undertaken.

5. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Executive considered a report that recommended a new Statement of Community Involvement that set out how the Council proposes to engage with its stakeholders and the community in the preparation of development plan documents and when considering planning applications.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the revocation of the existing Statement of Community Involvement be approved.

2. That the responses made to the public consultation be noted.
3. That the Statement of Community Involvement attached to the report as Appendix 1 be adopted.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.

Options Considered: As contained in the report.

6. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

The Executive considered a report that advised of progress on establishment of the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Panel.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the progress to date on establishment of the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Panel be noted
2. That subject to any amendments required by law and other minor amendments, the draft arrangements for the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Panel as a joint committee of the Hertfordshire Local Authorities be agreed and that given the limited timeframe the Council has had to consider this matter delegated authority for final approval be given to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
3. That the Leader be appointed to serve on the Panel, with the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities as her substitute.
4. That the Chief Executive be requested to make representations to Broxbourne Council as the host authority, to ensure that the Panel had gender balance and diverse community representation and that the arrangements for appointing the independent members to the Panel would be open and transparent.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report and 4 to ensure that the composition of the Panel was appropriate.

Options Considered: As contained in the report.

7. URGENT KEY DECISION TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE – AWARD OF BMO SUPPLY CHAIN CONTRACTS

The Executive considered a report concerning an urgent key decision taken by the Chief Executive concerning the award of BMO supply chain contracts.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.

Options Considered: As contained in the report.

8. BALANCED SCORECARD

The Chief Executive presented the 2011-2012 year end Balance Scorecard results. He stated that the overall score was up on Quarter 3 but was lower than the 2010/2011 year end, which was understandable given the economic climate.

The Executive considered particularly each of those indicators that were red and the reasons for this.

The Executive was of the view that it was not unexpected that indicators such as number of households living in temporary accommodation were red as the impact of the recession had caused an increase in formal homelessness applications and people using the Housing Advice Service. The overall high level of demand for housing had resulted in a significant increase in the level of points needed to be able to make a successful bid on a property. Members were of the view that it was important for those on the waiting list to be aware of the increasing pressures on accommodation and requested that the Strategic Director (Community) arrange to brief the local press explaining the impact of increasing homelessness on the Council's ability to house people.

Members expressed their concern that a number of indicators for the Customer Services Centre were red, particularly in relation to telephone contact. The Leader stated that she had asked for a report to explain why the level of telephone calls received was so high. Additionally, regarding the website, it was considered important to ensure that a mobile enabled version was available so that pages could be used from hand held devices.

The Chief Executive stated that some of the indicators and targets for the 2012/2013 Balanced Scorecard were to be changed from those of 2011/2012. The Leader indicated that all Portfolio Holders should be fully briefed on any changes in relation to indicators in their Portfolios.

It was **RESOLVED** that the year end Balanced Scorecard results be noted.

9. URGENT PART I BUSINESS

'Portas Pilots'

The Leader informed the Executive that unfortunately Stevenage had not been successful in its bid to become a 'Portas Pilot' and receive assistance to try out ideas put forward by Mary Portas in her High Street Review that looked to rejuvenate shopping areas. Twelve

Towns across the country had been announced but it was understood that other Towns would be added and a further announcement was expected on 30 June. The Stevenage application was to be carried over and it would be possible to include additional evidence.

Royal Visit

The Leader stated that details of the Royal Jubilee visit had now been confirmed. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh were to visit the Town on 14 June. The Queen would be opening the Lister Hospital's new maternity wing and the Duke of Edinburgh would be visiting the Business and Technology Centre. Officers were working with community groups regarding representation at the Lister Hospital event and local businesses and schools were to be represented at the Business and Technology Centre.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Not required.

PART II

11. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

None

Chair