

# STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, 4 April 2018

Time: 2.00pm

Place: Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete

**Present:** Councillors: S Taylor OBE CC (Chair), J Gardner (Vice-Chair), R Raynor, S Speller and J Thomas.

**Start / End Time:** Start Time: 2.00 p.m.  
End Time: 2.55 p.m.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Henry, J Hollywell and Mrs J Lloyd.

There were no declarations of interest.

### 2. MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 13 MARCH 2018

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 13 March 2018 are approved as correct record for signature by the Chair.

### 3. MINUTES OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES

With reference to the proposals for the Workplan set out in the Minutes of the Community Select Committee the Executive concerned that there were too many studies quoted and that there was insufficient officer resource to ensure to support the Committee. It was suggested that the most three focussed reviews would not be appropriate to undertake a scrutiny at this time. Additionally, SLL's performance had relatively recently been subject to an external review.

Regarding pre-scrutiny, the Executive noted that this should, in the main, relate to matters that were scheduled to come forward to the Executive.

The Leader indicated that she welcomed the additional recommendations for the action plan on Communications detailed in the Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and Members agreed that engagement with young people should be extended beyond the Youth Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Minutes of meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees are noted –

- A. Community Select Committee – 7 March 2018
- B. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 8 March 2018.

#### 4. **NEW HOMES BONUS**

The Executive considered a report that recommended approval of a range of schemes and initiatives to be funded from the 2018/2019 New Homes Bonus allocation.

It was reported that at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 8 March 2018 the Chair had agreed to waive the call-in period regarding the decision on Scheme 4 – Stevenage Cycling Festival.

Members noted that Scheme 7: Participatory Budgets, related to three wards, not two as quoted.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That an allocation of £260,600 from the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus allocation be approved for the implementation and delivery of the following schemes -

- Scheme 1- Neighbourhood Wardens £41,600
- Scheme 2 - Stevenage Day £10,000
- Scheme 3 - Acknowledging the end of World War 1 £7,000
- Scheme 4 - Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series £90,000
- Scheme 5 - Imagine Stevenage, Mobilising our Cultural Offer £40,000
- Scheme 6 - Supporting Town Centre events £10,000
- Scheme 7- Participatory budgets £40,000
- Scheme 8 - Recognising suffragette movement £7,000
- Scheme 9 - Electric Charging points £15,000

2. That Members note the progress made in relation to delivery of the 2017/18 NHB initiatives.

*Reasons for decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other options considered: As contained in the report.*

#### 5. **COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY**

The Executive considered a report for recommendation to Council regarding the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy.

Members recorded their thanks to Sarah Pateman and her team for the work undertaken in bringing the Strategy forward.

It was noted that officers were developing links with the British Transport Police

given the increase in rail services stopping at Stevenage.

On the advice of the Borough Solicitor recommendation 2.2 was withdrawn.

It was **RESOLVED** that Council be recommended to approve the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy as appended to this report.

*Reasons for decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other options considered: As contained in the report.*

**6. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

None

**7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That, under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 to 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2006 No. 88.

2. That having considered the reasons for the following item being in Part II, it be determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

**8. PART II MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 13 MARCH 2018**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part II section of the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018 be approved for signature by the Chair.

**9. URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

None

**CHAIR**