

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: Cabinet

Decision No: D160079CAB

Date: 12 October 2016

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Review of Mayoralty Function - Recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(Report of Chief Executive)

Consideration was given to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 13 September 2016 on the outcome of a review of the Mayoralty function.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be endorsed as follows:

- (1) no changes be made to the role of the Mayor as set out in the Constitution;
- (2) no change be made to the current approach to Mayoral engagements;
- (3) the Mayor should continue to undertake a fund raising role for one or two chosen charities as at present;
- (4) the role of the existing Macebearer be retained as at present;
- (5) the current arrangements for Mayoral transport be retained but competitive quotations be sought from three providers to ensure value for money and the budget be limited to £10,000;
- (6) the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel be invited to review the allowances payable to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor;
- (7) the incoming Mayor be given the freedom to decide if he/she wishes to appoint as Chaplain a person from any religion for the purpose of providing spiritual counsel or, alternatively, to make no appointment; and
- (8) no changes be made to the current arrangements for the saying of prayers immediately before Council meetings provided that any Member may choose to join the meeting thereafter if they so wish.

Reasons:

As set out in the reports of the Chief Executive to Cabinet and Director of Central Services to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 14 October 2016

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision Taken By: Cabinet

Decision No: D160080CAB

Date: 12 October 2016

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Technical Consultation Paper on 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement

(Report of Director of Finance and Transformation)

The report provided an overview of a Department for Communities and Local Government consultation paper on a range of technical issues concerning the 2017/18 local government finance settlement together with a proposed response. The key points included reconfirmation of the Government's multi-year settlement offer, proposed council tax referendum principles and the approach to business rates revaluation adjustment.

The Cabinet resolved that

The proposed response to the Technical Consultation Paper on the 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement, as set out at Annex 1 to the report, be endorsed and approved.

Reasons:

As set out in the report of the Director of Finance and Transformation.

Signed Chief Executive:

J Beilby

Date of publication: 14 October 2016

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Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D160081CAB
Date: 12 October 2016

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Medium Term Financial Strategy Update and Business Rates Pooling

(Report of Director of Finance and Transformation)

The report provided an update on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), the projected funding gap and associated savings targets. Although it was expected that the current year's target of £625,000 would be achieved, it was noted that the remaining two tranches would have to be brought forward from 2021/22 to 2019/20 largely as a result of the recent cut in the bank rate and its consequent impact on investment income over the period of the MTFS.

An update was also given on the Kent Business Rates Pool and approval sought to confirm the Council's continued membership of the Pool for 2017/18.

The Cabinet resolved that:

- (1) the good progress made in meeting the savings target for 2016/17 be noted and appreciation recorded whilst recognising that there is a significant financial challenge remaining to be addressed over the medium term; and
- (2) the Council's continued membership of the Kent Business Rates Pool in 2017/18 be confirmed.

Reasons:

As set out in the report of the Director of Finance and Transformation.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 14 October 2016

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