

**TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, 2nd December, 2021**

**Present:** Cllr J L Sergison (Chairman), Cllr Mrs A S Oakley (Vice-Chairman), Cllr M O Davis (Vice-Chairman), Cllr C Brown, Cllr R I B Cannon, Cllr R W Dalton, Cllr M A J Hood, Cllr F A Hoskins, Cllr S A Hudson, Cllr Mrs F A Kemp, Cllr D W King, Cllr J R S Lark, Cllr H S Rogers, Cllr M Taylor and Cllr F G Tombolis

(Note: As Councillor Base was unable to attend in person and participated via MS Teams he was unable to vote on any matters)

Councillors Mrs J A Anderson, Mrs P A Bates, R P Betts, V M C Branson, M A Coffin, N J Heslop, D Keers, W E Palmer and M R Rhodes participated via MS Teams and joined the discussion when invited to do so by the Chairman in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D Thornewell

**PART 1 - PUBLIC**

**OS 21/27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

**OS 21/28 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 7 October 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET**

**OS 21/29 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - INTERVENTIONS REPORT**

The joint report of the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Transformation and Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive summarised the key issues arising from the Commissioners' Interventions Report at the former Northamptonshire County Council.

Members reviewed the issues raised and assessed whether the Borough Council was adequately equipped to avoid these occurring

within Tonbridge and Malling. Particular reference was made to the major financial challenges facing the Council and consideration given to what role the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should have in supporting the 'financial agenda'. In addition, Members discussed what specific training might be required to assist in the overview and scrutiny role.

After careful consideration, it was

**RECOMMENDED:** That

- (1) Officers be invited to consider how the agenda for each meeting of the Committee include an item on an element of financial matters which identifies any changes in the budgetary position since the previous meeting;
- (2) the Risk Register be reported to the Committee on a regular basis to provide an update on those identified as 'red' and identify actions taken to negate those risks;
- (3) Officers be invited to identify suitable training for members of the Committee in light of its scrutiny role and to enable a better understanding of financial issues; and
- (4) Officers investigate best practice at other local authorities and invite their officers to present details of this at a future meeting of the Committee.

**\*Referred to Cabinet**

**MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE**

**OS 21/30 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no items considered in private.

The meeting ended at 9.03 pm