CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON C O U N C I L

Meeting of the Cabinet

Minutes - 24 May 2023

Attendance

Members of the Cabinet

Cllr Stephen Simkins (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Cllr Obaida Ahmed

Cllr Chris Burden

Cllr Craig Collingswood

Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal

Cllr Jasbir Jaspal

Cllr Louise Miles

Employees

Tim Johnson Chief Executive

Emma Bennett Executive Director of Families

Ian Fegan Director of Communications and Visitor Experience

Charlotte Johns Director of Strategy
David Pattison Chief Operating Officer

John Roseblade Director of Resident Services

Jaswinder Kaur Democratic Services and Systems Manager

Dereck Francis Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Ian Brookfield, Paula Brookfield and Steve Evans.

2 Declaration of interests

No declarations of interests were made.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 April 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Public Spaces Protection Order 2023 - Dog Control

Councillor Craig Collingswood presented the report on a proposal to renew the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) - Dog Control that was due to expire on 30 September 2023. Following consultations into the renewal of the PSPO, it was proposed to include additional measures in the renewed Order: prohibiting dogs in water features or facilities in council controlled and maintained areas such as parks

and open spaces, Town Centres, Nature Reserves and County Parks; dogs to be kept on a lead in council operated cemeteries; a requirement to provide a name and details when requested to do so by an authorised officer; and an offence to be in charge of a dog on public land without means of faeces collection and disposal. It was noted that the prohibitions and requirements in the proposed renewed Order would not apply to those in control of assistance dogs.

Resolved:

- 1. That the renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Dog Control be approved.
- 2. That the recommendations for a city-wide PSPO, subject to the mandatory six-week legal challenge period allowed, which includes the same proposals as the previous Order and additional measures be approved.

5 Urgent decision relating to City West Relaunch Grant Scheme

Councillor Stephen Simkins presented the report, for information, on the decision made under Urgency Decision Provisions relating to City West Relaunch Grant Scheme. He reported that under the scheme a total of £350,000 had been set aside to support eligible businesses with grants to help them 'relaunch' their business activities and make the most of opportunities arising from the Council's £15 million investment in new public realm spaces in and around Victoria Street. It was noted that there was no legal requirement for the Council to do this but the Council had made it clear that it was committed to supporting traders. To date 32 businesses had applied for the grant - 57% of those that are eligible. The Council would encourage others to get their application in and not lose out. Councillor Simkins added that it was proposed to extend the deadline for applications to the relaunch grant scheme to Friday 30 June 2023.

Resolved:

That the decision made under Urgent Decisions for Cabinet be noted.

6 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Part 2 - exempt items, closed to press and public

7 Children's Social Care Reform Project

Councillor Chris Burden presented the report on Children's Social Care Reform Project.

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the exempt report to be approved.