

CABINET

30TH JULY 2020

REPORT OF THE CHAIRS OF CORPORATE, HEALTH & WELLBEING AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

PURPOSE

To update Cabinet and to make recommendations to it following consideration of matters by the Scrutiny Committees.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Committees have made recommendations to Cabinet in relation to the following matters:

Scrutiny Committee	Title of Matter referred	Date of Scrutiny meeting
Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee	Electric Vehicle Charging Project Update	08.07.2020
Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee	Community Safety Plan 2020-2023 and the Tamworth Police Update	08.07.2020
Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Council Response to COVID-19 – Vulnerable People	14.07.2020
Corporate Scrutiny Committee	Capital Outturn Report	15.07.2020
Corporate Scrutiny Committee	Member Training Update	15.07.2020

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following consideration by each of the above Committees, the following recommendations are made to Cabinet:

Electric Vehicle Charging Project Update

It is recommended to Cabinet that:

1. Operating Model 2 is chosen
2. a further marketing exercise to secure a supplier / operator is carried out with Council Officers given delegated authority to offer financial incentives in the form of low rental value and / or a financial contribution towards the capital cost
3. a private sector location on the Ventura retail parks is investigated
4. an Action Plan is developed that focuses on new on-street fast charging sites

and on-street residential charging sites.

5. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is installed in the borough by the end of the 2020/21 municipal year.

Community Safety Plan 2020-2023 and the Tamworth Police Update

It is recommended to Cabinet that it endorse the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2020-2023 for publication (Appendix 1).

Council Response to COVID-19 – Vulnerable People

It is recommended to Cabinet that a joint letter from all the Leaders of each political group and the Chief Executive be issued to thank all anchor organisations involved in the response to COVID-19 in the borough.

Capital Outturn Report

It is recommended to Cabinet that a review of property funds is undertaken and it is suggested that such review be scrutinised by the Audit & Governance Committee, before any further investments under existing delegations are made.

Member Training Update

It is recommended to Cabinet that:

1. The impact of COVID-19 on member training, and in particular on the need to deliver training (online only) for the use of new IT systems and new processes to successfully deliver remote meetings, be recognised. This included the delivery for all Councillors as well and focussed training for Chairs and Vice-Chairs by an external trainer as well as extensive internal training.
2. The member induction programme for 2021/22 to be reviewed, updated and implemented, noting that:
 - 2.1 the schedule of induction events should be made available to all election agents as early as possible before election day;
 - 2.2 any initial ICT training of newly elected members should be undertaken on a 1-2-1 basis;
 - 2.3 the importance of the induction training should be emphasised to all new members; in particular Safeguarding and Data Protection / FoI.
3. The member training programme be reviewed, updated and implemented, noting that:
 - 3.1 the schedule of training sessions should be made available to all councillors prior to the start of the municipal year, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter;
 - 3.2 options to consider training sessions at alternative times of the day (day time / twilight / full day conferences) were not generally supported by the members who responded to the survey;
 - 3.3 shorter and interactive training sessions were recommended where practical;
 - 3.4 refresher IT training is available to all interested members and members should be encouraged to contact ICT support to arrange 1-2-1 support;
 - 3.5 training relevant to specific committee members such as planning, licensing and audit & governance should be scheduled to support members' attendance prior to members making decisions at such committees;
 - 3.6 whilst prior to COVID-19, the use of online training as an alternative to face-to-face training was generally not supported, the need to find alternative delivery methods during COVID-19 has demonstrated that

- some forms of online training are fully effective and should be incorporated going forwards;
- 3.7 members who responded to the questionnaire considered that the training programme covered the correct topics, although some members requested more formal training, perhaps utilising external training bodies;
- 3.8 all members who responded to the questionnaire, felt that the training programme had helped them understand their role and responsibilities as a Councillor and the work of the Council.
4. All members be reminded of the importance of attending training sessions and in particular members of the regulatory committees, additionally, all members be reminded of the importance of attending scheduled regulatory training sessions. Attendance at regulatory training sessions by members of the regulatory committees to be recorded on the Council's website.
 5. Planning training to be mandatory for all members, given all members involvement in the Local Plan. Remote training and online training options to be made available to facilitate this.
 6. New members to be actively encouraged to attend the Local Government Association regional event for new councillors.
 7. New members will be invited to an introductory meeting with the Leader of the Council and the Mayor.
 8. Members to be encouraged to access and use MembersZone regularly which will continue to be updated and the content widened.
 9. Democratic Services, the ICT team and Customer Services be thanked for their role in supporting Councillors in the implementation of remote Council and Committee meetings.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Options considered were as set out in the reports presented to the relevant scrutiny committee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Electric Vehicle Charging Project Update Report of the Assistant Director to the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee - dated 8 July 2020
2. Community Safety Plan 2020-23 and Tamworth Police Update Report of the Assistant Director Partnerships – dated 8 July 2020
3. Council Respond to COVID-19 – Vulnerable People Report of the Assistant Director, Partnerships and the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods – dated 14 July 2020
4. Capital Outturn Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance – dated 15 July 2020
5. Update on Member Training Report of the Executive Director, Organisation - dated 15 July 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2020-2023

REPORT AUTHORS

Councillor Thomas Jay
Chair of Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Richard Ford

Chair of Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Simon Goodall
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