



## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 12th DECEMBER 2024**

**PRESENT:** Councillors C Dean, D Foster, N Arkney, B Clarke, S Daniels and L Smith

The following officers were present: Stephen Gabriel (Chief Executive), Anica Goodwin (Executive Director Organisation), Rob Barnes (Executive Director Communities), Joanne Goodfellow (Interim Executive Director Finance and Deputy Section 151 Officer), Tina Mustafa (Assistant Director Neighbourhoods) and Laura Sandland (Democratic and Executive Support Officer)

### **87 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **88 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024 were approved as a correct record.

*(Moved by Councillor N Arkney and seconded by Councillor S Daniels)*

### **89 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **90 QUESTION TIME:**

None

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

Report of the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to notify Cabinet of the report and recommendations from the Impact of the changes to Winter Fuel allowance/Pension Credit item that was discussed at the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the 27th November 2024.

Councillor C Bain Chair of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee attended to notify Cabinet of the report and recommendations from this item.

**Following consideration of the item the Committee agree to the following recommendations being made to Cabinet:**

1. The appointment of a food champion to work with the Portfolio Holder to look at the food insecurities data and promote food security across Tamworth.

*(Moved by Councillor C Bain and seconded by Councillor M Couchman)*

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

Approved the recommendation from the Health & Wellbeing Committee

*(Moved by Councillor B Clarke and seconded by Councillor N Arkney)*

**An additional recommendation was proposed, and it was resolved that Cabinet:**

Agreed that the Council contact other Local authorities, including Staffordshire County Council, to ascertain what work is underway and encourage them to work with Tamworth Borough Council.

*(Moved by Councillor B Clarke and seconded by Councillor N Arkney)*

**92 COUNCIL TAX BASE 2025/26**

Report of the Leader of the Council to report the Council Tax Base for the Borough Council for 2025/26.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

Approved that Tamworth Borough Council resolves its calculation of the Council Tax Base for the year 2025/26 to be 23,596 (2024/25 – 23,479).

*(Moved by Councillor B Clarke and seconded by Councillor S Daniels )*

**93 WRITE OFFS 1 APRIL 2024 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Report of the Leader of the Council to Update Members on Write Offs for the period 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2024.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

Endorsed the amount of debt written off for the period of 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2024 – Appendix A-E respectively.

*(Moved by Councillor S Daniels and seconded by Councillor L Smith)*

#### **94 TEMPORARY RESERVES, RETAINED FUNDS AND PROVISIONS**

Report of the Leader of The Council to advise Members of the levels of reserves and to seek approval to re-purpose unspent reserves, following the recent review by CMT and the Interim Executive Director Finance.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Approved the transfer of the reserves, as detailed in Appendix A, including £22,513.40 to General Fund Balances and £67,875 to Housing Revenue Account Balances (HRA); and
2. Noted the current levels of reserves remaining.

*(Moved by Councillor N Arkney and Seconded by Councillor B Clarke)*

#### **95 QUARTER 2 2024-25 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Report of the Leader of the Council to provide the with an overview of Council performance for the second quarter of the 2024/25 financial year (July to September 2024). It reports the council's position in relation to progress with strategic corporate plan projects and updates on the financial position, corporate risks, audits, information governance, compliments, comments, complaints and health & safety. Corporate Scrutiny Committee considered the report on 19th November 2024

During discussion the Portfolio Holder for Infrastructure, Heritage and Local Economy asked if it could be considered to include the introduction of heritage into Tamworth Corporate Plan.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

Endorsed the contents of this report.

*(Moved by Councillor B Clarke and seconded by Councillor N Arkney)*

## **96 PUBLICATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Homelessness and Planning to seek Cabinet approval for the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2023/24 and delegate authority where recommended for the publication of future Infrastructure Funding Statements.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Approved the draft Infrastructure Funding Statement at Appendix 1 for publication on the council's website; and
2. Delegated authority for the publication of future reports to the Assistant Director – Growth & Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Homelessness and Planning and Section 151 Officer.

*(Moved by Councillor B Clarke and seconded by councillor L Smith)*

## **97 COUNCIL HOUSING - MUTUAL EXCHANGE AND INCENTIVE TO MOVE REVIEW OUTCOMES**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Homelessness and Planning to provide information to members on the Mutual Exchange Policy and the Incentive to Move Policy that have been reviewed and updated.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Approved the Mutual Exchange Policy (ME). (Annex 1)
2. Approved the updated Incentive to Move Policy (ITM) (Annex 2)

*(Moved by Councillor D Foster and seconded by Councillor C Dean)*

## **98 TAMWORTH SAMARITANS GRANT**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Cooperative Council, Community Partnerships and Anti-Social Behaviour, to update on the grant awarded to Samaritans which ends on 31st March 2025 and to seek approval for a further grant award to

support the sustainability of a Tamworth Branch to provide a range of services for Tamworth residents.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Authorised a grant to Tamworth Samaritans to the value of £5,000 per year for three years for the period 1st April 2025–31st March 2028 to the value of £15,000 with an option to extend for one (1) further successive period of one (1) year subject to Council requirements, the continuing availability of funding, satisfactory delivery of the services and the agreement of both parties.
2. Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Communities and Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Cooperative Council, Community Partnerships and Anti-Social Behaviour to manage the grant including any variations during the term of the grant.

*(Moved by Councillor C Dean and seconded by Councillor N Arkney)*

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Leader