

North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Northallerton on Tuesday, 16 January 2018 commencing at 11.00 am.

County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Officers present: Richard Flinton, Stuart Carlton, David Bowe, Gary Fielding, Daniel Harry, Anton Hodge, and Barry Khan.

Attending: two members of the press were in attendance.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

98. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2017, having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

99. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest to note.

100. Questions and Statements from members of the public

There were no questions or statements from members of the public.

101. Feedback from Area Committees

Considered –

A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) relating to meetings of the:-

- ◆ Yorkshire Coast and Moors County Area Committee - 22 November 2017
- ◆ County Area Committee for the Harrogate District - 7 December 2017
- ◆ Ryedale Area Committee - 11 December 2017

County Councillor David Chance introduced the report and advised that at the meeting of the Yorkshire Coast and Moors Area Committee there had been a discussion about the

refocussing of the Area Committees. The proposal had been welcomed, particularly with regard to greater local scrutiny of health issues. The agendas for the meetings of the Area Committees for Harrogate and Ryedale had been dominated by discussions about the relief road and hydraulic fracking, respectively.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

102. Schools Budget

Considered –

A report of the Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Services asking the Executive to agree a number of recommendations relating to school funding for 2018-19, as required by guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE). These recommendations include: using the DfE's proposed National Funding Formula (NFF) as a basis for funding schools from April 2018 and using approx. £1.6m of additional funding allocated to North Yorkshire to support High Needs cost pressures in 2018-19, as allowed by DfE regulations. These recommendations have been endorsed by schools during a countywide consultation and agreed by the North Yorkshire Education Partnership. The report also asks the Executive to agree to continue to lobby central government for a fairer and more equitable funding settlement for schools in North Yorkshire.

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan introduced the report and referred members to the list of recommendations in section 6 of the report. These recommendations had been developed in consultation with the North Yorkshire Education Partnership.

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan stated that there were a number of issues particular to North Yorkshire that the National Funding Formula did not reflect. The National Funding Formula has an emphasis upon deprivation and does not fully take into account High Needs and issues relating to sparsity and pupil mobility. In the county, the pressures on the High Needs budgets continue to grow and under the new funding arrangements North Yorkshire is at the bottom of the list for additional funding. As such, additional funding of £1.6m has been sought from the Schools Block to support High Needs in 2018-19.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson echoed the comments made by County Councillor Patrick Mulligan and highlighted her concerns about where the necessary additional funding to support High Needs in 2019-20 and beyond would come from.

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan asked that Council continue to push for a fairer funding formula that recognised the increasing demand upon High Needs and the issues of mobility and sparsity.

County Councillor Carl Les said that he would take up this up with North Yorkshire's MPs and the County Council Network.

Resolved –

- (a) That the Council uses the values set out in the DfE's National Funding Formula, including the various transitional arrangements, and a Minimum Funding Guarantee of 0%, as a basis for funding schools in 2018-19 is agreed.

- (b) That 0.5% of the Schools Block will be used to support High Needs costs in 2018-19 is agreed.
- (c) That the Council will continue to push for a fairer and more equitable funding settlement for schools in North Yorkshire and will work with the DfE to finalise arrangements for allocating mobility and sparsity funding prior to full implement of the NFF, expected in 2020. We will also continue to lobby for a fairer settlement of high Needs resources.

103. Report on the Independent Remuneration Panel

Considered –

A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) asking the Executive to consider reviewing level of allowance to be paid to members of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

County Councillor David Chance introduced the report and said that the Independent Remuneration Panel had been established on 2001 to review Councillor's allowances. The allowances that were set at the time for the members of the panel have not been reviewed in over 15 years.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd said that the allowances paid to the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel should be reviewed on a more frequent basis. He noted that the complexity and the demand of the work that they undertake has increased significantly over time.

Barry Khan confirmed that there was no set, legal timeframe for formal reviews.

County Councillor Carl Les suggested that Councillor allowances be reviewed on a four yearly cycle to coincide with commencement of each new Council.

Resolved –

That the revised level of allowance for the Chairman of the Panel to £770 and for other Panel members to be £590 and to allow claims for travel expenses to County Hall for formally approved meetings is approved.

104. Forward Work Programme

The Forward Plan for period December 2017 to December 2018 was presented.

Resolved –

The forward work programme is noted.

105. Any Other Business

County Councillor Carl Les outlined national concerns that had been raised regarding the impact upon public services following the collapse of Carillion. The concerns relate to services provided directly by Carillion, those provided by sub-contractors and the impact upon companies in the supply chain.

Gary Fielding, Corporate Director – Strategic Resources said that North Yorkshire County Council has no direct contracts with Carillion for the delivery of public services. He stated that he had reviewed the supply chain and the possible impact upon companies that provide services that are used by the Council. Of the top 15 only one may be affected.

Stuart Carlton, Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Services said that no schools were directly affected but that further work was underway to identify any knock-on issues with companies that supply Carrillion.

David Bowe, Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services said it was the same situation for Highways work that had been commissioned by the Council. There was some Carillion involvement in local access routes to the A1 but this was being picked up by Highways England.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd said that the collapse of Carillion would lead to a national debate about how the public and private sector work together to deliver services.

County Councillor Carl Les noted that there could be a significant impact upon Catterick Garrison as Carillion was one of the largest providers of services there.

The meeting concluded at 11:20

DH/JR

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