



**SUMMONS**

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 22 January 2020**

**DBC Council Chamber - The Forum**

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Dacorum Borough Council in the County of Hertfordshire to be held in the DBC Council Chamber - The Forum on Wednesday 22 January 2020 at 7.30 pm to transact the business set out below.

**SALLY MARSHALL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**Contact: Jim Doyle**

**ext 2222**

# AGENDA

## 1. MINUTES

There are no minutes available to be signed at this meeting.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

## 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To consider questions (if any) by members of the public of which the appropriate notice has been given to the Assistant Director (Corporate and Contracted Services).

## 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive announcements and business brought forward by the Mayor, Leader, and Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive.

4.1 By the Mayor:

4.2 By the Chief Executive:

4.3 By the Group Leaders: Any apologies for absence

4.4 Council Leader and Members of the Cabinet:

Cllr Williams

Cllr Banks

Cllr Williams

Cllr G Sutton

Cllr Elliot

Cllr Mrs Griffiths

Cllr Anderson

Leader of the Council

Community and Regulatory Services

Corporate and Contracted Services

Planning & Infrastructure

Finance & Resources

Housing

Environmental Services

## 5. MOTION

To consider the following Motion from Councillor England:

1. This Council notes that Universal Credit, the single monthly benefit payment which replaces the six current working age benefits, has now been implemented across most of the country, but has yet to be rolled out to all benefits claimants in Dacorum.

2. This council further notes that within Dacorum the number of people affected is likely to be in the thousands and is concerned that the full implementation of Universal Credit in Dacorum is likely to prove seriously detrimental to the health and wellbeing of those thousands of local residents.

3. In recognition of this and of the fact that the move to full implementation of Universal Credit in other parts of the country has resulted in considerable financial hardship for many of those people moving onto this new system of benefit payments; council requests that before the full roll-out of Universal Credit across the Borough of Dacorum, measures are found to alleviate hardship caused by -

- a. The five week wait for claimants to receive their benefits.
- b. Payments going to one named member of a household.
- c. The rent element of benefit being included in payments to Claimants

4. To support the measures taken to alleviate hardship, the council requests that an additional financial provision be included in the budget for 2020/2021 to provide for hardship payments and/or loans.

5. In addition, Council requests that the Leaders of the Political Groups of the Council write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to urge that amendments to Universal Credit be introduced that will -

- a. End benefit sanctions as there is no evidence that sanctioning helps people into work.
- b. Allow all new claimants to apply for Universal Credit in job centres supported by trained job centre staff rather than forcing new claimants to apply on-line.
- c. Abandon the in-work conditionality for part-time or low paid workers.
- d. Increase the overall level to which Universal Credit is funded.

## **6. QUESTIONS**

To consider questions (if any) by members of the Council of which the appropriate notice has been given to the Assistant Director of Corporate and Contracted Services.

## **7. BUSINESS FROM THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING**

To consider any business referred from the previous meeting

## **8. CABINET REFERRALS (Pages 5 - 6)**

To consider the following referrals from Cabinet:

- |     |           |                  |                             |
|-----|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8.1 | CA/121/19 | 10 December 2019 | Committee Timetable 2020/21 |
| 8.2 | CA/122/19 | 10 December 2019 | Draft Corporate Plan        |

**9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REFERRALS**

None.

**10. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

To consider any proposals for changes to committee membership

**11. CHANGE TO COMMITTEE DATES**

To consider any proposals for changes to committee dates

**12. CONSTITUTION UPDATE (Pages 7 - 9)**