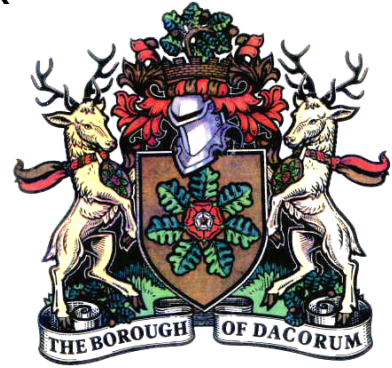


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SUMMONS

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday 13 July 2016

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Dacorum Borough Council in the County of Hertfordshire to be held in the Council Chamber - Civic Centre on Wednesday 13 July 2016 at 7.30 pm to transact the business set out below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Marshall'.

**SALLY MARSHALL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

**Contact: Jim Doyle ext 2222
 Louise Collins ext 2633**

AGENDA

1. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 13)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 18 May 2016 (Appendix A Pages 5-9)

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 Solicitor to the Council.

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:

Councillor Williams	Leader of the Council
Councillor Mrs Griffiths	Housing
Councillor Harden	Residents & Corporate Services
Councillor G Sutton	Planning and Regeneration
Councillor Marshall	Environment, Sustainability and Regulatory Services
Councillor Elliot	Finance & Resources

5. PETITION

To acknowledge receipt and consider a petition containing 1000 signatures from Dacorum Residents (1415 signatures in total as at 5th July 2016) regarding the proposed development of a Multi Storey Car Park in Berkhamsted. The petition gathered on 'Change.org', addressed to Andrew Williams, Leader of the Council is worded as follows:

“Stop high-rise car park in historic Berkhamsted conservation area”

<https://www.change.org/p/andrew-williams-stop-high-rise-car-park-in-historic-berkhamsted-conservation-area>

6. QUESTIONS

To consider questions (if any) by members of the Council of which the appropriate notice has been given to the Solicitor to the Council.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

To consider any business referred from the previous meeting

8. CABINET REFERRALS (Pages 14 - 22)

To consider the following referrals from Cabinet:

Minute No.	Date	Title
8.1 CA/053/16	24 May 2016	Proposals for a development company
8.2 CA/054/16	24 May 2016	Constitution Update
8.3 CA/062/16	28 June 2016	Statement of Community Involvement
8.4 CA/064/16	28 June 2016	National Graduate Development Programme
8.5 CA/066/16	28 June 2016	Council Tax Support Scheme Review

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 the following changes to the Committee Dates:

1. Finance and Resources OSC

To change the meeting date of 4th October 2016 to 5th October 2016.

2. Strategic Planning and Regeneration OSC

To add an additional meeting for Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 7.30pm.

3. Standards

To change the meeting date of 15th September 2016 to 22nd September 2016.

4. Housing OSC

To add the meeting date of 22nd September 2016 and remove the meeting of 12th April 2017.

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

To consider passing a resolution in the following terms:

That, under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the item in Part II of the Agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that if members of the public were present during this item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council or of any particular person,

Local Government Act 1972, Part VA, Schedule 12A, Part 1

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

18 MAY 2016

Present -

MEMBERS:

Adeleke (Mayor), G Adshead, S Adshead, Anderson, Banks, Barnes, Mrs Bassadone, Bhinder, Chapman, Conway, D Collins, E Collins, Douris, Elliot, Fantham, Fethney, Fisher, Mrs Griffiths, Harden, P Hearn, Hicks, Howard, Imarni, Link, Mahmood, Madden, Marshall, Matthews, McLean (Deputy Mayor), Mills, Peter, Ransley, Riddick, Ritchie, Silwal, G Sutton, R Sutton, Taylor, Tindall, Timmis, Williams, Whitman, C Wyatt-Lowe

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive, Corporate Director (Finance & Operations), Corporate Director (Housing & Regeneration), Solicitor to the Council, he Group Manager (Democratic Services), M Anderson and K Johnston.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm.

1. THE MAYOR

Councillor Adeleke made a speech in relation to his year as Mayor.

Councillor Adeleke asked for nominations for the election of a Mayor to hold office until the appointment of a successor at the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

It was moved by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Bassadone and unanimously

Resolved:

That Councillor Mclean be appointed Mayor to the Borough of Dacorum until the appointment of a successor at the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

Councillor Adeleke vacated the chair which was taken by Councillor McLean who made his declaration of acceptance of office

The Mayor delivered a speech of acceptance.

COUNCILLOR GBOLA ADELEKE

The newly elected Mayor referred to the duties carried out by Councillor Adeleke as Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum during the previous year.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Williams and unanimously

Resolved:

That the Council tender to Councillor Gbola Adeleke their most cordial thanks for the admirable manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum during the past year and place on record their appreciation of the energy and sound judgement which distinguished his actions during that period: That the Seal of the Council be affixed to a copy of this resolution: and that it be presented to him in recognition of his services as Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum.

2. DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor asked for nominations for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor to hold office until the appointment of a successor at the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

It was moved by Councillor C Wyatt-Lowe, seconded by Councillor Whitman and unanimously

Resolved:

That Councillor D Collins be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum until the appointment of a successor at the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

Councillor D Collins made his declaration of acceptance of office.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2016 were agreed by the Members present and were then signed by the Mayor.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Ashbourn, Bateman, Birnie, Brown, Clark, Guest, S Hearn and W Wyatt-Lowe.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

7. THE LEADER, CABINET, OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY AND REGULATORY COMMITTEES 2016/17

- a) The Council received from Councillor Williams the appointments of the Deputy Leader and the other Members of the Cabinet and their respective Portfolios.

Councillor Mrs Griffiths – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing
Councillor Harden - Portfolio Holder for Residents and Corporate Services
Councillor Elliot - Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources
Councillor Sutton - Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration
Councillor Marshall - Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability and Regulatory Services.

- b) Proposals for the Members and substitute Members to serve on the Standing Committees until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017 were circulated as set out in Annex A to these minutes and agreed.
- c) Nominations to the pool of Members who are trained, or who are to be trained, to serve on the Appeals and Reviews Committee as and when required were received and agreed.
- d) The Chair/man, Vice Chair/man and Shadow Chair/man of the Standing Committees (except the Standards Committee) were appointed.
- e) The Chair/man of the Standards Committee will be elected by the Committee and Substitutes are permitted.

The meeting ended at 8.18pm.

MEMBERSHIP OF CABINET, OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANELS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2015/16

Cabinet

Cabinet Portfolio Holder	Conservative
Leader & Community Leadership	Cllr Williams
Finance & Resources	Cllr Elliot
Housing	Cllr Mrs Griffiths (Deputy Leader)
Environmental, Sustainability and Regulatory Services	Cllr Marshall
Residents & Corporate Services.	Cllr Harden
Planning & Regeneration	Cllr G Sutton

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY (13 members = 11:1:1)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Gbola Adeleke		
Mrs Sharon Adshead	Brenda Link	Tony Fethney
Julie Banks		
Hazel Bassadone		
Olive Conway		
Penny Hearn		
Isy Imarni (Vice Chair)		
Suglain Mahmood (Chair)		
Goverdhan Silwal		
Jane Timmis		
William Wyatt-Lowe		
Substitutes		
David Collins	Roxanne Ransley	
Tina Howard	Ron Tindall	
Michael Clark		

FINANCE AND RESOURCES (14 members = 11:1:1)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Gbola Adeleke		
Julian Ashbourn	Ron Tindall	Tony Fethney
Adam Barnes		
John Birnie		
Herbert Chapman (Chair)		
Elaine Collins		
Michael Clark		
Terry Douris (Vice Chair)		
Tina Howard		
Roger Taylor		
Goverdhan Silwal		
Substitutes		

Alan Anderson	Brenda Link	
William Wyatt - Lowe	Roxanne Ransley	
Christina Brown		
Fiona Guest		
Peter Matthews		

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (13 members = 11:1:1)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Graham Adshead	Roxanne Ransley	Anne Fisher
Alan Anderson (Chair)		
Julian Ashbourn		
Stephen Bateman		
Elaine Collins		
Stephen Hearn		
Mike Hicks		
Tina Howard		
Peter Matthews		
Stewart Riddick		
Colette Wyatt-Lowe (Vice Chair)		
Substitutes		
John Birnie	Brenda Link	
Robert McLean	Ron Tindall	
Tom Ritchie		
Rosie Sutton		
Jane Timmis		

HEALTH IN DACORUM COMMITTEE (7 members = 7:0:0)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Christina Brown	n/a	n/a
Fiona Guest		
Mike Hicks		
Jan Maddern		
Jane Timmis		
Roger Taylor		
William Wyatt Lowe		
Substitutes		

AUDIT COMMITTEE (5 members = 5:1:0)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Adam Barnes	Ron Tindall	
Christina Brown		
Terry Douris		
Roger Taylor (Chair)		
William Wyatt-Lowe		
Substitutes		
Graham Adshead	Brenda Link	
Alan Anderson	Roxanne Ransley	

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE, Development Control (14 members = 12:1:1)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
John Birnie	Ron Tindall	Anne Fisher
Michael Clark		
David Collins (Chair)		
Olive Conway		
Fiona Guest (Vice Chair)		
Israel Imarni		
Jan Maddern		
Peter Matthews		
Stewart Riddick		
Tom Ritchie		
John Whitman		
Colette Wyatt-Lowe		
Substitutes		
Stephen Bateman	Brenda Link	
Penny Hearn	Roxanne Ransley	
Colin Peter		
Hazel Bassadone		
Stan Mills		

APPEALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE**Appeals (9 members = 8:1:0)**

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Mrs Sharon Adshead	Brenda Link	n/a
Hazel Bassadone (Chair)		
Olive Conway		
Alan Fantham		
Penny Hearn (Vice Chair)		
Stewart Riddick		
Rosie Sutton		
Roger Taylor		

Licensing and Health and Safety Enforcement Committee (13 members = 12:1:0)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Mrs Sharon Adshead	Brenda Link	n/a
Adam Barnes		
Hazel Bassadone		
Olive Conway		
Alan Fantham (Vice Chair)		
Penny Hearn (Chair)		
Tina Howard		
Stan Mills		
Colin Peter		
Rosie Sutton		
Roger Taylor		
John Whitman		
Substitutes		

Licensing and Health and Safety Enforcement Sub-Committee (7 members = 6:1:0)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Penny Hearn (Chair)	Brenda Link	n/a
Hazel Bassadone		
Olive Conway		
Alan Fantham		
Rosie Sutton		
John Whitman		
Substitutes		

Licensing of Alcohol & Gambling Sub-Committee (3 members 2:1:0)

This Committee consists of a Panel of 3 Members who are picked from the Members of the Licensing of Alcohol & Gambling Sub-Committee. Only Members who have had training on the Licensing of Alcohol & Gambling Sub-Committee can sit on this Panel.

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (5 members = 3:1:1)

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Jan Maddern	Ron Tindall	Ann Fisher
Peter Matthews		
Roger Taylor		
Substitutes		
Colette Wyatt-Lowe		

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (5 members 5:0:0)

Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Labour
Hazel Bassadone		
Mrs Margaret Griffiths		
Graham Sutton		
Andrew Williams		
Colette Wyatt-Lowe		
Substitutes		

Electoral Review Committee

Conservative (5)	Liberal Democrats (1)	Labour (1)
Alan Anderson		
David Collins		
Terry Douris		
Janice Marshall		
Andrew Williams		
Substitutes		
Neil Harden		
Colette Wyatt-Lowe		

OTHERS**JNC (Joint Negotiating Committee)**

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Mrs Sharon Adshead		n/a
Christina Brown		
Herbert Chapman		
Roger Taylor		
John Whitman		
Substitutes		
Graham Adshead		
Isy Imarni		

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Graham Adshead		
Julie Banks		
Olive Conway		
Terry Douris		
Penny Hearn		
Mike Hicks		
Tina Howard		
Roger Taylor		

Agenda Item 8

ITEM 8 – REFERRALS FROM CABINET

24 MAY 2016

8.1 CA/053/16 PROPOSALS FOR A DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Decision

1. The procurement of specialist technical advice to progress work on the creation of a Development Company be approved;
2. The primary objectives of the Development Company, as detailed in paragraph 7 of the Cabinet report be approved and,
3. The development sites identified in paragraph 12 to form the initial pipeline for the Development Company be approved,

Resolved to Recommend:

A draw down of £100k from the Invest to Save reserve, in order to fund the procurement of advice associated with the creation of a Development Company and further associated costs.

Reason for Decision

To gain Cabinet approval for the overarching principles of a Council-owned Development Company, ahead of procuring specialist, technical advice.

Implications

Financial

The financial implications are included within the body of the report.

Value for Money

The procurement exercise will be governed by the Council's Procurement Standing Orders, designed to ensure fair competition and maximise value for money.

Risk Implications

There are limited risks associated with the recommended procurement at this stage of the project. The risks inherent with the actual creation of a company will be reported back to Cabinet to consider later in the year, before the next steps are taken.

Health & Safety Implications

None.

Corporate Objectives

This project aligns with all of the Council's corporate objectives, as approved by Council in February 2016.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments

Monitoring Officer:

The Council has the power to establish a Development Company pursuant to provisions contained in the Local Government Act 1972, Local Government Act 2003 and the Localism Act 2011.

As highlighted in the report, detailed legal advice will be obtained in relation to the governance arrangements which will operate between the Council and the Development Company, the applicability of 'State Aid' rules (EU rules in place to prevent members states distorting cross boundary competition), and the Council's requirement to achieve 'best consideration' for any disposal/transfer of land to the Development Company.

Comprehensive advice on all of the above issues will be provided in future reports to Cabinet in due course.

S.151 Officer

This is a Section 151 Officer report.

Advice

The Portfolio Holder for Finance & Resources explained that the purpose of the report was to seek approval for a development company to provide and secure investment income for the future. The report had suggested a budget of £100k and this was to ensure no risks were taken with potentially having a short fall and having to return to Cabinet with a further budget request.

The Portfolio Holder for Residents & Corporate Services asked what the differences were between what the council currently did and how this would change.

The Corporate Director of Finance & Operations explained that currently this was affecting the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), however in the future the hope would be to maximise revenue income to support the provision of General Fund services. Furthermore, currently developments were subject to right to buy and therefore not guaranteed long term income. The development company proposal would help ensure long term viable income. He highlighted the importance of needing clear objectives for the development company.

The Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration said they must help to protect the council's position. He added that there wouldn't be many differences to the process.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing sought clarification that this duty would form part of the General Fund as opposed to the HRA.

The Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration confirmed that they could charge rents to the General Fund in order to help support the council's objectives.

The Chief Executive added that there were a number of council's already doing this.

The Portfolio Holder for Residents & Corporate Services asked how the figure of £100k being requested was calculated.

The Corporate Director of Finance & Operations explained that many other council's budgets had been in the region of £60-70k and he did not want to have to return to Cabinet requesting further funds due to there being a shortfall in the budget. He assured members of the Cabinet that they would be carrying out the required tendering process.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing recommended that recommendation (4) be broadened to read 'A draw down of £100k from the Invest to Save reserve, in order to fund the procurement of advice associated with the creation of a Development Company and further associated costs.'

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Sustainability & Regulatory Services asked if during the tendering process they would be looking for ideas for the use of a development company and would they be able to embrace many areas or would they be limited to just Housing.

The Corporate Director of Finance & Operations explained that the report listed the key objectives. They didn't want to create a complex process as it needed to get started. The Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration felt that it would be likely that a development company would be able to cover broader areas.

The Chief Executive said that this was explained in paragraph 8 of the report and by including some key objectives, meant that there would be a more focussed discussion. The Corporate Director of Finance & Operations added that they did not want to prohibit the scope of the company and therefore a further report would be presented to Cabinet to look into these aspects.

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Sustainability & Regulatory Services asked which other council's did things this way.

The Chief Executive replied that virtually all the Eastern Region councils were looking to do it if they weren't already doing so.

The Portfolio Holder for Residents & Corporate Services asked if bidders through the tendering process will be asked to provide examples as a way of evidencing their experiences.

The Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration confirmed this would be the case and said that many of those making a bid will have had experience with other council's.

Voting

None.

8.2 CA/054/16 CONSTITUTION UPDATE

Decision

Resolved to Recommend:

- 1. the changes to the Constitution as set out in paragraphs 9, 10, 14, 16 and 21 of the Cabinet report**
- 2. the changes to the Financial Regulations as set out in paragraphs 22 and 26 of the Cabinet report**

Reason for Decision

To seek approval to amend the Constitution and Financial Regulations to reflect changes to staffing structures, operational changes and new legislation.

Implications

Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report

Value for Money

There are no implications arising from this report.

Failure to have an up to date and accurate Constitution could lead to legal challenge and operational, reputational and financial costs may follow if the challenge was successful.

Community Impact Assessment

There are no community impacts which require assessing resulting from this report.

Health & Safety Implications

There are no Health and Safety implications connected to this report.

Corporate Objectives

The Constitution and the Council's Financial Regulations support all of the Council's Corporate Objectives as they provide the governance framework for all decisions, strategic and operational.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments

Monitoring Officer:

This is a Monitoring Officer report.

S.151 Officer

No further comments to add to the report.

Advice

The leader of the Council explained that this was a simple report bringing everything together following the recent structure changes.

The Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer explained that there would be regular reports to Cabinet in the future in order to reflect ongoing changes.

The Leader of the Council felt it would be good to see it regularly.

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Sustainability & Regulatory Services asked if Members would see the amendments before the Constitution is published.

The Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer said there would be a thorough review of the Constitution and the amendments would be published in full. The report highlighted the key principles of the changes.

He noted that a copy of the changes could be circulated to the members of Cabinet before publication.

The existing version on the council's website and on Modern Gov will be replaced.

Voting

None.

8.3 CA/062/16 STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Decision

Resolved to Recommend:

- 1. the responses to comments received on the draft Statement of Community Involvement (2016); and**
- 2. the new Statement of Community Involvement to guide future consultation on planning matters as annexed in the report to Cabinet.**

Reason for Decision

That Cabinet consider consultation responses received on a new Statement of Community Involvement (2016), agree responses to comments received and recommend to Council the formal adoption of the new document.

Financial

There are no direct financial implications relating to the preparation of a new SCI. However, there are implications for the consultation arrangements set out within it: and the need to balance public expectations regarding the types of consultation techniques with the costs involved.

Value for money

The SCI sets out the range of consultation techniques that will be used within the planning process and the need to ensure that these are fit for purpose and proportionate in terms of the scale and nature of the planning issue(s) involved.

Legal

The production on an SCI is a legal requirement. Compliance with an up to date SCI assist the Council in defending objections and appeals against its planning decisions. Conversely, failure to comply with the standards and processes set out within the SCI could result in legal action against the Council.

Staff

No direct implications for staffing. However, all staff and elected Members need to be aware of the content of the SCI and follow processes and procedures within it.

Land

No direct implications, although the planning documents and proposals that will be subject to consultation will have implications for the future use of land.

Risk Implications

Key challenges relating to consultation are set out within the SCI itself. Key risks relate to non-compliance with the SCI – resulting in legal challenges - and the need to balance public aspirations regarding consultation and involvement in planning decisions, with the limited budgets available.

Equalities Implications

Equalities issues are considered through the Sustainability Appraisal process that all planning policy documents are subject to. The SCI itself also considers the most appropriate consultation techniques to reach different types of consultees. There may also be indirect implications for the SCI i.e. relating to the choice of venues for public consultation events and the need to ensure these are DDA compliant.

Health & Safety Implications

No direct implications. There may be indirect implications relating to different types of consultation techniques and the choice of event venues.

Corporate Objectives

The SCI sets out how the Council will consult on its planning policy documents and on planning applications. It therefore directly supports the 'Community Capacity' and 'Dacorum Delivers,' and indirectly supports all other objectives via the plans and developments that arise through the planning process.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments

Monitoring Officer

No comments to add to the report.

Section 151 Officer

There are no direct financial consequences of the proposed recommendation. Any resource requirements for delivering consultations in line with the proposed Statement of Community involvement will have to be met from approved existing budgets

Advice

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration introduced the report and said this process was started in 2006 and has already been brought to Cabinet this year but this report has a few changes.

The Assistant Director for Planning, Development and Regeneration said the report highlights the principle changes. On page 24, the report shows the alignment with new legislation and the role of social media in the consultation process.

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental, Sustainability and Regulatory Services said that the newsletter was a brilliant idea. The Portfolio Holder mentioned this had been discussed at the Cabinet meeting in December and referred to page 84 of the report. The Portfolio Holder appreciated that this was a draft statement and so asked if the third column heading on page

84 could be changed to “site notice and/or neighbour notification letter” and this would allow for flexibility.

The Assistant Director for Planning, development and Regeneration said this was a helpful suggestion and sometimes it was appropriate to have both a site notice and neighbour notification letter.

Voting

None.

8.4 CA/064/16 NATIONAL GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Decision

1. That the recruitment of a graduate in 2016 from the National Graduate Development Programme be approved.

Resolved to Recommend:

- 2. Approval for drawing down £72,800 from the Management of Change reserve.**

Reason for Decision

To recommend to Cabinet that the Council participate in the National Graduate Development Programme (NGDP) for 2016 (Cohort 18).

Implications

Financial

Overall costs = £72,800 for the entire programme, funded by the management of change reserve

Value for Money

No implications due to the scheme being nationally recognised and is the only one of its type.

Risk Implications

Any associated risks will be covered by staff inductions and training, as per any other member of staff.

Health & Safety Implications

The Council's Health and Safety policies would apply to this post.

Corporate Objectives

Dacorum Delivers:

Building an efficient, effective modern Council means having the right workforce in place, which includes employing 'young people' with fresh and current ideas.

This programme also supports succession planning by assisting the Council in growing leaders for the future.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments

Monitoring Officer:

No comments to add to the report

S.151 Officer

Following approval by Council the required amount (£72,800 in total) can be met from the Management of Change reserve to be drawn down over 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Advice

The Portfolio Holder for Residents and Corporate Services introduced the item regarding a two year graduate post from the Local Government Association. The Council have previously had eight graduates and all have gone on to permanent senior positions.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing supported this scheme and said she was proud of all the graduates that had worked at the Council.

Voting

None.

8.5 CA/066/16 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT TEAM REVIEW

Decision

Resolved to Recommend:

- 1. not to revise or replace the current Council Tax Support scheme for 2017/18.**
- 2. Approval of the proposed minor technical changes to the 2017/18 Council Tax Support scheme as laid out in paragraphs 22 and 23 of the report.**

Reason for Decision

To consider whether to revise or replace the existing Council Tax Support scheme for the 2017/18 billing year, and if so, to approve options for consultation.

To note the requirement to consider revision or replacement of the Council Tax Support scheme for 2017/18. To consider the recommendation to uprate the calculation amounts for working age people within the scheme and to adjust the scheme to introduce a rule to automatically do this in future years. To consider the recommendation to make an adjustment to the rule defining disability for the purpose of classing a taxpayer as vulnerable within the scheme.

Implications

Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising if Cabinet agree with the recommendations made by this report, as the assumptions in the MTFS about council tax income are based on the continuation of the current scheme. The potential impacts of other choices are explained in the body of this report.

Community Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken on the 2013 Council Tax Support scheme. There have been no changes since that date which have required an update to that assessment. If revision or replacement of the scheme is being considered, then an updated Community Impact Assessment will be developed in order to form part of the consultation process.

Health & Safety Implications

There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.

Corporate Objectives

Effective management of the Council's finances supports the Council's vision and all five of its corporate objectives.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments

Monitoring Officer:

Schedule 1A of the Local Governance Finance Act 1992 (as amended) requires that a billing authority (this Council) considers each financial year whether to revise or replace its Council Tax Support Scheme.

This report satisfies that requirement and recommends no revision or replacement to the current scheme other than the minor technical changes noted. If Cabinet or Council does require revision or replacement of the scheme following consideration of this report further consultation will be required.

S.151 Officer

This is a S151 Officer report.

Advice

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources said that the Council was required, under law, to review or replace the Council Tax Support Scheme. The Portfolio Holder said that there were a couple of minor technical changes to support residents.

The Group Manager for Revenues, Benefits and Fraud said that there were a few minor amendments due to catching up with new welfare legislation.

Voting

None.