

## **EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Main Hall at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

### **Present:**

Councillors D Goodfellow (Chairman), G Allen, Mrs B Ashcroft and R A Faulkner.

### **Officers Present:**

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Housing Options Manager, the Corporate and Commercial Manager and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

### **Also Present:**

Cabinet Support Members Councillor S McGarry and M Metcalfe.

Councillor A A Chaudhry and C Sylvester.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B G Peters.

## **PART II**

### 163/21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

### 164/21 **MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
D Goodfellow		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
R A Faulkner		

### 165/21 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

166/21 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the period 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 was submitted for information.

**NOTED.**

167/21 **FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT FOR THE USE OF AN ARTICLE 4 DIRECTIVE TO CONTROL THE GROWTH IN HOUSES OF MULTIPLE OCCUPATION**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the feasibility of using Article 4 Directive to control the growth of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the Borough was considered.

Cabinet noted that there was evidence of significant growth in the amount of family homes being converted into HMOs, resulting in a relatively high number of complaints and an increase in lost Housing Benefit subsidy. In order to control this growth other Local Authorities had successfully used an Article 4 Direction. Article 4 Directions were the legal means by which a local authority could require property owners to seek permission to convert a single dwelling house into a small HMO. The purpose of an Article 4 direction would be to give the Council more control over housing stock through the ability to control the density of HMOs in a given area.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

That a draft Article 4 Direction be created, reviewing the evidence as to what areas should be included.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
D Goodfellow		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
R A Faulkner		

168/21 **COVID-19 EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE REPORT (MAY 2021)**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the latest situation and associated response in East Staffordshire by the Council and its partners to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic was considered.

Cabinet noted that the report included a backwards looking review of recent response activities considering all relevant aspects of the response including considerations regarding: People & Processes; Service Changes & Communications; Community & Partners and Finances and that throughout the response to the COVID-19 situation, critical services had continued.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

That the update detailed within the report be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
D Goodfellow		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
R A Faulkner		

169/21

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved:**

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.