

## **The Executive – 9 September 2015**

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Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **9 September 2015** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr T G Cutmore

Cllr Mrs J R Lumley  
Cllr Mrs J E McPherson  
Cllr Mrs C E Roe

Cllr M J Steptoe  
Cllr I H Ward

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs K H Hudson and S P Smith.

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

A Dave – Chief Executive  
D Murray – Section 151 Officer  
J Bostock – Assistant Director, Democratic Services

Prior to commencement of the meeting, the Executive stood in silent tribute to the memory of former Councillor Mrs G A Lucas Gill, Portfolio Holder for People and Technology, who had recently passed away.

### **181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mrs J R Lumley, Mrs J E McPherson and Mrs C E Roe each declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item on the process for awarding voluntary sector grants by virtue of their involvement with the voluntary sector.

### **182 PROCESS FOR AWARDING VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS**

The Executive considered the report of the Assistant Director, Legal Services on a process for awarding voluntary sector grants 2016/17.

It was agreed that it would be appropriate to ensure that, within the awarding process, appropriate recognition is given to resources and benefits, other than monetary, available to applicants (such as car parking and office facilities) as well as support provided by other organisations.

Information on the precise status of the awarding of the contract for advice service commissioning would be provided to members of the Executive.

#### **Resolved**

- (1) That a procedure be put in place for allocating the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund for the financial year 2016/17 that is fair, transparent and compliant with the Best Value Statutory Guidance published in 2011 and gives appropriate recognition to resources and benefits, other than

monetary, available to applicants as well as support provided by other organisations.

- (2) That applications to the small grants scheme be open to all voluntary groups operating services in the District, which is in line with the Compact Agreement.
- (3) That the Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Services receive top-sliced funding from the same pot, based on the previous year's performance in relation to their Service level Agreement. A joint grant agreement with Essex County Council (which also funds this organisation) to be set up to monitor the allocated grant.
- (4) That a specified timeline in line with Best Value Guidance, as outlined in the report, be followed. (ADLS)

### **183 LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Executive considered the report of the Assistant Director, Resource Services on arrangements for public consultation on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2016/17.

Responding to questions, officers advised that:-

- Part C of the draft consultation document (About You) was of a standard form included in consultation documents for data monitoring purposes. A return would not be rejected if Part C had been left blank. Consideration could be given to including an informative that Part C is not obligatory.
- If possible, the consultation would be included as an item in the Council's newspaper, Rochford District Matters, and every endeavour made to include hard to reach groups. Social housing landlords would be consulted as far as possible.
- Collated responses would form part of a report with recommendations on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme into the meeting of the Executive scheduled for 4 November 2015.

### **Resolved**

That the public consultation document 'Consultation on Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2016/17', as appended to the report, be approved. (Section 151 Officer)

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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