The Executive – 23 June 2010

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **23 June 2010** when there were present:-

> Chairman: Cllr T G Cutmore Vice Chairman: Cllr Mrs M J Webster

Cllr Mrs L A Butcher Cllr K H Hudson Cllr Mrs T J Capon Cllr C G Seagers Cllr M J Steptoe Cllr K J Gordon

OFFICERS PRESENT

P Warren Chief Executive

G Woolhouse Deputy Chief Executive

G Woolhouse Y Woodward Head of Finance

 Head of Community Services J Bourne

N Khan Principal Solicitor

J Bostock – Member Services Manager

168 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 April 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

169 PERFORMANCE REPORT ON KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO MARCH 2010.

The Executive considered the report for Head of Finance on progress against key performance indicators up to 31 March 2010.

During discussion it was noted that:-

- LABGI funding meant that the Council's Economic Development Unit will be able to undertake further work with small businesses on rate relief possibilities, training and other initiatives.
- There had been some positive outcomes from work undertaken to help those facing redundancy following the closure of E-on, with a reported thirty eight placements identified.
- The County Council is funding a number of apprenticeships in both the private and the public sector.
- Whilst the situation needed to be kept under review, the time taken to process new benefit claims and the backlog of claims continued to reduce.
- It is good that the Council is within target on the number of households currently in temporary accommodation and that the trend was in the

right direction.

- Detailed work had been undertaken on the operation of the Handy Person and Gardening Schemes, and quarterly monitoring has been put in place.
- Approximately 1,000 persons per month were visiting the Great Wakering Leisure Centre.
- Since report publication, figures associated with the percentage of land and highway having detritus were on the positive side of the target. The contractor has increased the resources for this work.

It was felt that it would be useful for the next report to include a more detailed graphical breakdown of visitor numbers associated with the Great Wakering Leisure Centre.

Resolved

That the progress against key performance indicators for the fourth quarter of 2009/10 be noted, the next report to include a more detailed graphical breakdown of visitor numbers associated with the Great Wakering Leisure Centre. (HF)

170 CONSTITUTION

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Finance and Head of Legal, Estates and Member Services on amendments to the Financial Regulations within the Constitution and changes associated with the recent adjustment to officer roles.

Recommended to Council that the amendments to the Financial Regulations, as detailed in the report, be approved, with the appropriate pages of the Constitution reflecting this and the changes associated with recent adjustments to officer roles. (HF/HLEMS).

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of The Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

171 SHARED SERVICE WORKING

The Executive considered the exempt report of the Head of Community Services on proceeding with an investigation into shared service working with another Authority.

During discussion it was observed that:-

- The entering of any shared service arrangement would need to be on the basis that there would be resource, capacity and quality improvements and recognition that each Council needs to be able to respond to and address issues that may arise within their locality.
- Appropriate business continuity and emergency planning arrangements would need to be a part of considerations.
- It is important to ensure that all Council Members remain informed of work being undertaken.
- The Council is involved in a number of projects with the Authority identified in the report.
- It may be that there could be opportunities/interest from other authorities in any scheme established.

Resolved

- (1) That, subject to the facility to be able to withdraw from discussions if at some point that becomes an appropriate course of action to protect this Council's interests, the potential merger of the service area identified in the exempt report be investigated.
- (2) That a Joint Member Project Board be formed on the basis set out in the exempt report to investigate the detailed implementation requirements. (HCS)

| The meeting closed at 8:10 pm. | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| | Chairman |
| | Date |

If you would like these minutes in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.