

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

THE DEPUTY MAYOR – COUNCILLOR JUDY FOX

Present:

Councillors Ahmed, Jackie Allen, Steve Allen, Asif, Ayres, Barkham, Bi, Bisby, Andrew Bond, Sandra Bond, Casey, Cole, Coles, Day, Dowson, Elsey, Mohammed Farooq, Saqib Farooq, Fenner, Fitzgerald, John Fox, Judy Fox, Harper, Haseeb, Hemraj, Hiller, Hogg, Howard, Hussain, Iqbal, Jamil, Alison Jones, Dennis Jones, Knight, Lane, Mahmood, Nawaz, Over, Perkins, Qayyum, Rangzeb, Ray, Rush, Sainsbury, Sharp, Skibsted, Stevenson, Strangward, Thulburn, Warren, Wiggin

42. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence received from Councillors Cereste, Khan, Moyo, Sabir, Sandford, Seager, Shaheed, Simons and Tyler.

43. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

44. Establishment of Investigation and Disciplinary Committee

Councillor Coles moved the recommendation and stated that the report was presented to Council in order to establish two committees. The Council had a statutory requirement to have an Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee and an Appeals Committee to deal with disciplinary matters in relation to the Head of Paid Service, S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer. The appendices with the report outlined the terms of reference for both committees.

Councillor Alison Jones seconded the recommendations and reserved her right to speak.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to:

1. Establish an Investigating and Disciplinary Committee which is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England) Regulations 2001 as amended by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) England (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (IDC) to deal with disciplinary matters relating to the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer (S151 officer and Monitoring Officer).
2. Adopt the Terms of Reference for the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee which are included at Appendix 1.
3. Establish an Appeals Committee to deal with disciplinary matters short of dismissal

relating to the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer which is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England) Regulations 2001 as amended by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) England (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

4. Adopt the Terms of Reference for the Appeals Committee which are included at Appendix 2.
5. That seats on the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee and Appeals Committee will be allocated to political groups in accordance with the proportionality rules and that appointments (including the Chair and Vice-Chair) to both committees will be made following nominations received from the political groups.
6. That the Monitoring Officer and Head of Constitutional Services are authorised to make all other necessary and consequential amendments to the constitution to give effect to these recommendations.
7. That the Assistant Director of Human Resources and Development is authorised to arrange appropriate mandatory training for members serving on the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee and Appeals Committee.

45. Independent Panel Members

Councillor Coles moved the recommendation and stated that at the Full Council meeting on 26 July it was agreed to amend the constitution to allow for an Independent Panel to be set up. On the 27 July, Grant Osbourn, Stuart Webster and Mike Sofianos were appointed to sit as part of the Independent Panel. The report presented to Full Council sought the ratification of those appointments.

The second recommendation was for the Full Council to consider and note the section 5 report and the Council's response.

Councillor Alison Jones seconded the recommendations and reserved her right to speak.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to:

1. Ratify the appointment of Grant Osbourn, Stuart Webster and Mike Sofianos as the Independent Persons who form part of the Independent Persons Panel.
2. Note and consider the Section 5 report appended to this report and the Council's response.

46. Exemption of the Public and Press

The Deputy Mayor moved the recommendation to exclude the public and press from Item 6, Full Council Report Exempt, on the grounds that the item contained exempt information under Paragraph 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed (Information relating to an individual and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual).

Councillor Coles seconded the recommendation.

The Interim Head of Legal and Deputy Monitoring officer confirmed that there was no provision within the Council Standing Orders for officers to be able to address Full Council.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (Unanimous) to

move into exempt session for item 6, Full Council Report Exempt

The Deputy Mayor
6.00pm – 7.50pm
31 August 2023