

Councillor Tony Nixon (Mayor)

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

C A Baron	W J Kemp
J A Barron	R Kenney
R J Barron	P A Leason
F Beatty	A M Loughran
A R G Brown	B McKeown
R P Cooke	D McNaughton
A G Cooper	J A Nixon
B M Cross	L Nixon
A P Edgeller	G P K Pardesi
P M M Farrington	A N Pearce
I D Fordham	J M Pert
A T A Godfrey	M Phillips
A D Hobbs	J K Price
M V Holmes	R M Smith
J Hood	R M Sutherland
R A James	C V Trowbridge
P W Jones	M J Winnington

Officers in attendance:-

Mr T Clegg	-	Chief Executive
Mr I Curran	-	Head of Law and Administration
Mr W Conaghan	-	Press and Communication Manager
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer
Mr J Dean	-	Democratic Services Officer

C14 Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 April 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

C15 Apologies

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors M G Dodson, M Green, A S Harp, E G R Jones and P Roycroft.

C16 Secondment of Chief Executive

Considered the report of the Leader of the Council (V1 04/05/2021).

Councillor P M M Farrington introduced the report setting out the rationale for the sharing of the Chief Executive between Stafford Borough Council and Cannock Chase Council for an initial 12-month period, the proposed terms of reference, terms and conditions, governance arrangements and timeline for the role in determining a business case for the ongoing sharing of the Chief Executive and further shared services.

The Leader of the Council concluded his comments by moving that the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2 of the report be approved.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor R M Smith.

Arising from the debate the following amendment was proposed by Councillor A T A Godfrey and seconded by Councillor A D Hobbs:-

“Stafford Borough Council is willing to help Cannock Chase District Council during its recruitment process for a new Managing Director. Stafford Borough Council’s Chief Executive Officer will be available to offer support and guidance to Cannock Chase District Council’s management team and incoming elected administration.

It is important to state that any help would be given as a helpful neighbour and at no time will the Chief Executive Officer of Stafford Borough Council be seconded, on a temporary or permanent basis, to Cannock Chase District Council. Any financial compensation for time and advice given by Stafford Borough Council to Cannock Chase District Council will be negotiated by the management of teams of the two authorities”.

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared to have fallen.

Upon continuation of the debate, in accordance with Paragraph 17.4 of the Council Procedure Rules, a request for a recorded vote on whether to accept the original motion was made by the required number of Members.

Voting on the matter was as follows:-

For	Against	Abstain
C A Baron	R P Cooke	A Nixon
J A Barron	I D Fordham	
R J Barron	A T A Godfrey	
F Beatty	A D Hobbs	
A R G Brown	M V Holmes	
A Cooper	J Hood	
B M Cross	W J Kemp	
A P Edgeller	R Kenney	

P M M Farrington
R A James
P W Jones
J A Nixon
J M Pert
M Phillips
J K Price
R M Smith
R M Sutherland
C V Trowbridge
M J Winnington

P A Leason
A M Loughran
B McKeown
D McNaughton
L Nixon
G P K Pardesi
A N Pearce

The Mayor subsequently declared the original motion to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that subject to approval of the proposals by Cannock Chase District Council at its meeting on 19 May 2021 the following be approved:-

- (a) secondment of the Councils Chief Executive, Tim Clegg, to Cannock Chase Council to provide services as Joint Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service from 1 June 2021, for a period of 14 months (“the Term”);
- (b) an interim report be submitted after 8 months in relation to the effectiveness of the interim sharing arrangements and an outline business case for ongoing sharing between the two Councils;
- (c) during the Term, Mr Clegg remain employed by Stafford Borough Council and seconded to Cannock Chase Council by agreement under section 113 of the Local Government Act 1972. Council agreed to share the full costs of the Joint Chief Executive post with Cannock Chase Council on a 50%/50% basis, accepting that current base salary for the post would be increased by 15%, during the Term, to reflect its increased responsibilities across two Councils;
- (d) a £20,000 budget be set aside to enable independent support and advice to be procured to progress the business case (with Cannock Chase Council also setting aside £20,000 for this purpose);
- (e) Emma Fullagar (Interim Head of Finance (Shared Services)) be appointed as interim Section 151 Officer following the retirement of the current office

holder until a succession plan for the vacant substantive position be finalised;

- (f) in order to provide adequate cover arrangements and to provide a mechanism in relation to conflicts of interests the Joint Chief Executive be delegated authority to appoint an Interim Deputy, from the existing Senior Management, for Stafford Borough Council. The Deputy post being delegated authority to undertake the role of Head of Paid Service function in the absence of the Joint Chief Executive and be subject to a 10% uplift for the 12-month period commencing 1 August 2021;
- (g) a non-decision-making Shared Services Board be established consisting of the Leader and Deputy (or nominee) of each Council together with the Joint Chief Executive, Interim Deputies for each Council and Shared Service Client Leads of each Authority as appropriate. The Board would report to both Councils with proposals for consideration;
- (h) the Head of Law and Administration and Corporate Services together with the Head of Human Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council be authorised to finalise the necessary legal and HR arrangements in relation to the above recommendations.

MAYOR