

**Governance Committee**

9 May 2016 – At a meeting of the Committee held at County Hall, Chichester.

Present:

Mrs Arculus (Chairman), Mr Barnard, Mr Brown, Ms Goldsmith, Ms James, Mr Lanzer and Mrs Mullins.

Apologies were received from Mr Burrett and Dr Walsh.

**Part I**

**Declarations of Interest**

1. In accordance with the code of conduct, in relation to items 6, Pension Advisory Board Work Plan and Budget 2016/17 and 13, Pooling of Fund Investment, personal interests were declared by Mr Lanzer as a member of the Scheme and Mrs Mullins as being in receipt of a local authority pension.

**Minutes of the Governance Committee**

2. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2016 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

**Revision to Call-in Protocol**

3. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy on revisions to the Call-in Protocol for recommendation to the County Council (copy appended to the signed minutes).

4. In relation to the final line of paragraph 40 of the protocol, as set out in the Appendix to the report, and the wording in relation to the Chairman's view prevailing if a unanimous view could not be obtained, the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy confirmed that this was in accordance with the usual provisions for a Chairman's casting vote.

5. Resolved – That the revisions to the Call-in Protocol endorsed by the Performance and Finance Select Committee, as set out at the Appendix to the report, be endorsed for approval by the County Council.

**Pension Advisory Board Work Plan and Budget 2016/17**

6. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Finance on the proposed work plan of the Pension Advisory Board for 2016/17 (copy appended to the signed minutes).

7. The Leader expressed thanks to Mr Brown, the former Chairman of the Pensions Panel, for his work on the setting up the Pension Advisory Board.

8. Resolved – That the proposed work plan and budget of the Pension Advisory Board for 2016/17, attached as Appendices A and B of the report attached as an Annex to the report, be agreed.

**Start of Life Partnership Board Terms of Reference**

9. The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director Care, Wellbeing and Education and the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy seeking endorsement to a recommendation to the County Council that the terms of reference of the Start of Life Partnership Board in the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution be amended to specify four meetings per year rather than six (copy appended to the signed minutes).

10. Rather than changing the number of meetings specified the Committee proposed that the reference to the number of meetings should instead be deleted from the terms of reference.

11. Resolved – That the County Council be recommended that the terms of reference of the Start of Life Partnership Board in the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution be amended by the deletion of the reference to the number of meetings per year.

**Report of Member Attendance April 2015 to March 2016**

12. The Committee was reminded that as part of its terms of reference it was required to monitor attendance of members at meetings of the County Council and its committees annually. The Committee was asked to note a report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy on members' attendance for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 (copy appended to the signed minutes).

13. Resolved – That members' attendance at Council, Committee and other meetings for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 be noted.

**Appointments to Committees, Panels and Outside Bodies**

14. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Committee was asked to appoint members to serve on the committees, panels and outside bodies as set out in the report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy (copy appended to the signed minutes) in line with the expressed wishes of the political groups.

15. Resolved – That appointments to committees, panels and South East Employers be approved as set out in the note.

**Report of Urgent Action**

16. The Committee noted action taken by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy, in consultation with the Chairman, as follows:

**Response to Consultation on Chichester District Council's Electoral Boundary Review**

Approval to the County Council's response to a consultation document from Chichester District Council on its electoral boundary review, as recommended by the Electoral Review Panel.

**Integration of the County Council's Legal Services with those of other Authorities: Establishment of Joint Committee**

Endorsement of the establishment of a Joint Committee to manage the single service partnership for legal services between Surrey and East Sussex County Councils and of Brighton and Hove City Council for recommendation to the County Council.

**Date of Next Meeting**

17. The Committee noted that the date of the next meeting would be changed from 2.15 p.m. on Monday, 27 June 2016 to 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 29 June 2016.

**Exclusion of Press and Public**

18. Resolved - That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, of Schedule 12A, of the Act by virtue of the paragraphs specified under the items and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.