

# **Cabinet**

**Wednesday, 6 December 2017**

## **Additional Information**

Agenda Item No 4 – Public Question Time (Responses)

Contact: Steve Jones (Telephone 01793 463602),  
email: [stevejones@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:stevejones@swindon.gov.uk)

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DR.dcc.MP 4839

Dear Martha,

Thank you for your email of 12<sup>th</sup> December based on your public questions at Cabinet. I can only apologise that you did not receive a written response to your enquiry about why you did not receive a grant at your last application. It would appear that it was overlooked when a senior officer left the organisation and his post was made redundant.

Councillor Martin has reviewed your last application and has upheld the decision not to award a grant on the basis that it did not meet the Council's Community Grants criteria. In the letter sent to you by the Council in February 2017, Swindon Civic Voice was invited to speak with VAS and it would be helpful to know whether such a conversation took place and, if so, what was the outcome.

With regard to Civic Voice's assistance in updating the Council's consultation policy and the Swindon compact, I have passed these requests to officers. As you are aware, there is a large range of stakeholder groups who might want to bring expertise to bear and I would need a compelling case to choose just one organisation over all the others.

Councillor Perkins has confirmed that he will give consideration to your suggestion that a Swindon Civic Voice representative be appointed as a stakeholder director to FSL. Again, given that there are a number of organisations who could fill this role, setting up some objective criteria to choose a single director is problematic. As for the wider issue of relations with FSL, Councillor Perkins will raise this with the relevant FSL officers.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor David Renard  
Leader of the Council

cc Councillor Mary Martin, Cabinet Member for Communities and Place  
Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for Regeneration  
Steve Jones, Committee and Member Services Manager

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RH.dcc.TR

Dear Mr Reynolds,

Thank you for your letter containing you public questions at Cabinet and your subsequent emails. I appreciate you setting out your views.

My own view is that since 2004 Swindon has gone from being one of the worst to one of the fastest improving Councils in the country.

We have delivered fair and affordable Council tax during a time of considerable challenge for public finances and Swindon's economy has gone from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Holland', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Russell Holland  
Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and  
Commercialisation

cc Councillor David Renard, Leader of the Council  
Steve Jones, Committee and Member Services Manager

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