

Swindon Borough Council

Special Committee

Monday, 15 September 2014

Committee Room 1, Civic Offices (Anticipated meeting room)

At 4.30 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

David Renard (Chair)
Fionuala Foley
Garry Perkins
Brian Mattock (Vice-Chair)
Dale Heenan

Deputies: *All other Cabinet Members*

Labour Councillors

Jim Grant
Junab Ali
Steve Allsopp

Deputies: *All other Labour Shadow Cabinet Members*

Liberal Democrat Councillors

Stan Pajak
Ann Richards (Deputy)

Deputies: *All other Liberal Democrat Members*

(Copies to all other Members of the Council – For Information)

Committee Officer: Ian Willcox (Telephone: 01793 463601)

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Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

Access Arrangements - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

PART 1 (PUBLIC ITEMS)

1. Apologies for Absence.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

3. Minutes. (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2014.

4. Public Question Time.

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

5. Exempt Items - Exclusion of Press and Public

Certain items are expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Special Committee is, therefore, recommended to resolve "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information".

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Paragraph No.</u>
6	1 and 2

PART 2 (TO BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT)

6. Chief Officers - Chief Officer Severance Payment. BDSD, HPD (Pages 3 - 8)

Date of Despatch: 05 September 2014

Key:

Officers:

CE	-	Chief Executive
BDC	-	Board Director Commissioning (DCS/ DASS)
BDSD	-	Board Director Service Delivery
BDR	-	Board Director Resources (Section 151 Officer)
DLDS	-	Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)
HPD	-	Head of People and Development

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website (<http://www5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Special Committee - Terms of Reference

The Special Committee shall have delegated to it the power to act for the Council on the advice of the Chief Executive on any policy decision or any particular matter that is urgent and necessary in the best interests of the Council.

The quorum of the Committee shall be three.

Deputy Members may be appointed at the Annual or any meeting of the Council.

Minutes of any proceedings of this Committee shall be submitted to the Council.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 24 MARCH 2014

PRESENT:- Councillors David Renard (Chair), Mark Dempsey, Fionuala Foley, Jim Grant, Garry Perkins, Brian Mattock (Vice-Chair), Des Moffatt and Mike Bawden.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Stan Pajak.

23. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

24. Minutes

Resolved –That the minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

25. Public Question Time

No public questions were asked under Standing Order 28.

26. Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan and Swindon's Future Infrastructure Needs - Reference from Cabinet

The Special Committee considered (a) a report by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, originally submitted to the Cabinet on 19th March 2014, concerning (i) the proposed areas for investment of the Swindon element of the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan to be submitted to the Government by 31st March 2014 as a bid for "Growth Deal" funding, and (ii) Swindon's future infrastructure needs and the use of the proposed Infrastructure Fund and New Homes Bonus funding to respond to those needs, (b) an oral report on the decision of the Cabinet on this matter (Minute 106 of the Cabinet refers), and (c) a tabled supplementary report submitted by the Head of Commissioning, Economy and Attainment setting out a summary of the "Swindon only" elements of the Strategic Economic Plan 2015-21 Competitive Bid to Government.

The Head of Commissioning, Economy and Attainment presented the reports and explained the background to the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan and the competitive bid to be submitted to the Government. He updated the Committee on the progress of the bid and the views of the Local Enterprise Partnership partners. He advised that the supplementary report set out a summary of the Swindon only elements of the bid and that these proposals had been identified in previous Council reports, plans and strategies.

Members commented and asked questions regarding the Swindon proposals and how these related to other schemes and Council priorities.

Councillor Jim Grant reiterated the views he had expressed at the Cabinet meeting in respect of the proposals for the establishment and use of a Council Infrastructure Fund and his view that there should have been greater cross-party involvement in the preparation of the Swindon elements of the bidding document. He suggested that the Leader of the Council might wish to consider establishing a new Cabinet Member Advisory Group to oversee the implementation of the Swindon elements of the Strategic Economic Plan, once the outcome of the bidding process was known.

Resolved – (1) That the Special Committee, on behalf of Council, approves the Swindon proposed areas of Investment as set out in paragraphs 3.11 to 3.13 of the joint report, as items for inclusion in the Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan to be submitted by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Partnership to Government on 31st March 2014.

(2) That, further to the decision in (1) above, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to agree amendments to items related to Swindon in the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) prior to its final submission and if required following feedback from partners and Government.

(3) That the Special Committee, on behalf of Council, agrees, in principle, the proposals related to the use of New Homes Bonus and the Infrastructure Fund as set out in paragraphs 3.17 to 3.21 of the joint report.

(4) That the Leader of the Council be requested to establish a cross-party Cabinet Member Advisory Group to consider scheme proposals and to oversee the implementation of the Swindon elements of the Strategic Economic Plan once the outcome to the competitive bid to Government is known.

Agenda Item 6

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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