

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Cabinet

Wednesday 25 October 2017 at 7.31pm

Councillors Present:

P K Lamb	Chair of Cabinet and Leader of the Council
M G Jones	Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Community Engagement
A C Skudder	Cabinet Member for Resources
G Thomas	Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Sustainability

Officers Present:

Natalie Brahma-Pearl	Chief Executive
Ann-Maria Brown	Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Heather Girling	Democratic Services Officer
Karen Hayes	Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors S J Joyce, C J Mullins and P C Smith

1. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interests were made.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 4 October 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Public Question Time

There were no questions from the public.

4. Business Rates Retention – 100% Business rates pilot application

The Leader of the Council presented report FIN/425 of the Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits. The report sought to determine whether to submit a bid to the

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for Crawley Borough Council to take part in the West Sussex wide 2018-2019 pilot for 100% business rate retention.

The Chief Executive had agreed that this item would be treated as an urgent item under Cabinet Procedure Rule 1.5, due to work not being concluded with all potential West Sussex pooling local authorities until mid-October 2017. In view of the need for the matter to have been dealt with as a matter of urgency, this item had been protected from the call in procedure.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) Approve the submission of a bid to the Department of Communities and Local Government for Crawley Borough Council to take part in the West Sussex wide 2018-2019 pilot for 100% business rate retention.
- 2) Delegate to the Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits, in consultation with the Leader, the authority to accept the Pilot if the Council is successful.

Reasons for Decision

- a) To enable a bid to be prepared in line with the timescales set out by DCLG which required delegated authority to be granted. The deadline for submission is 27 October 2017.
- b) If taxation receipts grow faster than spending on additional responsibilities, a successful bid should result in a greater share of local taxation being retained in the area, for the benefit of residents and service users.

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Cabinet concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.32 pm

P K LAMB
Chair