Draft Minutes



Council

Date: 28 January 2020

Time: 5.00 pm

Present: Councillors J Cleverly, P Cockeram, M Cornelious, D Davies, M Al-Nuaimi,

C Evans, M Evans, C Ferris, G Giles, J Guy, D Harvey, I Hayat,

Councillor R Jeavons, M Kellaway, M Linton, D Mayer, R Mogford, A Morris, Councillor J Mudd, M Rahman, J Richards, M Spencer, T Suller, H Thomas, K Thomas, C Townsend, Councillor R Truman, T Watkins, M Whitcutt, R White, K Whitehead, D Williams, G Berry, J Clarke, V Dudley, Y Forsey, R Hayat,

P Hourahine, J Hughes, J Jordan, S Marshall and H Townsend

Apologies: Councillors K Critchley, D Fouweather, C Jenkins, D Wilcox, T Holyoake,

L Lacey, W Routley and J Watkins

1. Preliminaries

i. To receive any apologies for absence

The Monitoring Officer reported apologies for absence (noted above)

ii. To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest at this stage.

iii. To receive any announcements by the Mayor

The Deputy Mayor congratulated the Mayor of Newport on his recent marriage to Alison Robbins, hence his absence at Council. The Council gave a round of applause.

The Deputy Mayor announced the sad news of the recent death of Graham Dally, former Mayor and Councillor. The Leader said a few words on behalf of the Council and a moment's silence was held as a mark of respect.

The Deputy Mayor presented Councillor M Spencer with the Armed Forces Covenant Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award, awarded to the Council by the Ministry of Defence. Councillor Spencer accepted the award on behalf of the council. Councillor Spencer praised officers for their hard work including Lisa Rawlings, Armed Forces Liaison Officer, Nicola Dance and Hannah Ashley

The Council had received an award from the Welsh Government, the Bee Friendly initiative, which would be formally presented to the Leader by the Minister for the Environment and Rural Affairs on a date to be agreed by the Welsh Government.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 November 2019.

Councillor M Evans, referred to page 11 under Leader's Questions, Council Tax increases. First paragraph should read that the Council Tax increase should not be any more than the inflation rate.

The Leader asked for a correction on the same page under the fifth paragraph where the surname should have read David Pipe 'with a P' and not Pike.

Resolved: That the Minutes of 26 November 2019 be approved and adopted, subject to the above corrections.

3. Appointments

To consider the proposed appointments set out in the report

Councillor Harvey moved the appointments set out in the Report, as agreed by the Business managers, subject to the additional appointments set out below.

Resolved: That the following appointments be agreed.

Internal Appointments

Committee	No. of Vacancies / Replacements	Nominations Received
Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships	1 Vacancy (Chair)	Councillor J Clarke
Member Oversight of Residential Homes (formerly Social Services Rota Visits)	4 Vacancies	Councillors K Thomas, Suller, Cleverly and C Townsend

Appointments to External Organisations

Organisation	No. of Vacancies / Replacements	Nominations Received
Norse Joint Partnership Board	1	Councillor Miqdad Al-Nuaimi
Living Levels	1	Councillor D Davies to replace the Leader
Mon and Brecon Canal Board Steering Group	1	Councillor D Davies to replace the Leader
Business Improvement District (BID)	1	Councillor Harvey to replace the Leader
Chair of Newport Transport	1	Councillor Harvey to replace the Leader
Vale of Usk, RDP Local Action Group	1	Councillor D Davies to replace the Leader

Governing Body Appointments

Governing Body	No. of Vacancies / Re- appointments	Nominations Received
Pillgwenlly Primary School	1	Re-appointment of Edward Watts as LA Governor
Pentrepoeth Primary School	2	Re-appointment of Paul Gregory and Darren Walsh LA Governors
Glan Usk Primary School	1	Hannah Hopkins replacing Kathryn Dryer as LA Governor
St Mary's Primary School	1	Re-appointment of Councillor Charles Ferris as LA Governor
Millbrook Primary School	1	Karyn Kean replacing Sarah Lewis as LA Governor
St Woolos Primary School	1	Sam Dabb Appointed to current LA Governor vacancy
Monnow Primary School	1	Re-appointment of Councillor Jan Cleverly as LA Governor

Councillor J Clarke declared an interest in relation to his nomination for Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee: Partnerships.

Councillor D Harvey added the following:

Councillor J Clark - Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee. Councillor L Lacey - EAS Scrutiny Councillors D Mayer and M Rahman - Newport Live Leader and Deputy Leader - Joint Council for Wales

In addition to the above appointments, Councillor Harvey informed Council of the need to agree dispensation for Councillor absence, in accordance with section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972:

Resolved:

To approve six month's absence for Councillor C Jenkins.

4. Police Issues

Supt M Richards referred to recent crime statistics for Newport which had dropped significantly, Newport were averaging around 1600 crimes per month. During October/November last year, the police stepped up their enforcement. The results were startling, from 1650 in November to 1480 in December 2019. Figures dropped by 300 crimes in January 2020 from 1300, by comparison to last year, when there were 1600 crimes. There was a similar story for anti-social behaviour; September/November 2019 350 incidents had dropped to approximately 220 in December 2019. The results were encouraging.

A recent Your Voice Survey which was run for communities to inform police of what they would like addressed by the Police had recently closed and as a result of this the Police would publish their revised priorities.

Superintendent Mike Richards gave a brief update on activity across three policing sectors within Newport.

- Newport West team Sgt Phil Welty taken over from Sgt R Giles. Increase in Community Support Offices in that area. Priorities in the area were drug misuse in Frances Drive, Maesglas and Bettws. Since November, there had been four drugs warrants executed in the Pill and Bettws area. The reporting of these incidents by members of the public and councillors allowed the Police to undertake the enforcement activity. Also in the Bettws area, there were eight seizures of off road bikes. As a result, Operation Harley would continue well into Spring 2020. There had been impressive Multi agency 'Community Walk-abouts' in Maeslgas and Pill area, led by the Council as part of the Contextual Safeguarding Strategy. Deb Evans, who worked for Children's Services was part of this project. Action plan for those areas taken forward.
- Newport East team addressing the car cruises on Sunday evening around Tesco and the Spytty retail area, J Morden, MP had been contacted and with the help of Councillor Kellaway, there was a joined up approach to address this matter; the Strategic safer Gwent Board was supporting this and inspector Cawley was leading a task and finish group to look into civil injunctions with the support of partners. 300 enforcement tickets had been issued and Tesco were using automatic plate recognition cameras. Operation Snap, was also in place on the Go Safe website, members of the public could video any antisocial behaviour on their mobile phones and upload to this website anonymously. There was an increase in anti-social behaviour in Langstone/ Llanmartin, Police were engaging with schools as mentioned at last Council and were hoping to make more visits. There was a reduction of nuisance behaviour along Durham Road. Resolving issue of fire setting in Ringland and working with schools on preventative strategies.
- The City Centre dominated with night time economy during the Christmas and New Year, including road closures after dark. The Police were continuing to enforce PSPO, in relation to aggressive begging near cash machines, this remained a priority. Supt Richards was waiting for fixed penalty notice books from the Council, and asked the interim Chief Executive if this could be relayed to the relevant service area.

Questions from Councillors:

- Councillor Jeavons asked if Supt Richards could you pass on his thanks to team for the work being done in Spytty and Tesco. Supt M Richards agreed, it was a difficult task and thanked everyone involved and hoped the civil injunction would be resolved.
- Councillor Rahman, ward colleague saw a spike in drug use in Rosslyn Close, along the new housing development and Rodney Road. Drug paraphernalia was found near the residential parking area, which was private land. The councillor had contacted the Management Company, REMUS about the issue. Could police therefore patrol these areas. Another area that had an ongoing issue was under George St Bridge, on the junction of Morris Street and Corporation Road. Residents were harassed by youths near the betting shop. Councillor Rahman sought clarification regarding residents with disabled bays who had problems with people parking illegally around Victoria Ward. As there were no signs accompanying the bays, police informed residents that no fines could be issued. Supt Richards advised that tickets could be issued and would check with the local team and provide outcome.
- Councillor C Evans advised Supt Richard of an email received from a resident who had given up reporting crimes, as they felt nothing was being done. The resident referred to the anti-social behaviour, outside the Church Hall at Wern Terrace, Rogerstone, usually from 5pm until late. Supt Richards wanted to assure the Councillor that the Police have not stopped caring and would take the details of the resident to meet up and discuss the issues.
- Councillor M Evans was pleased to see police presence in the City Centre, although it
 was highlighted that aggressive begging remained a priority, this occurred regularly near

cash point machines car parking ticket stations. Supt Richards advised Councillor M Evans that they were looking to amend the Public Space Protection Order to extend the 10 metre perimeter and would be entering dialogue with partners to explore this.

- Councillor C Townsend asked what power of decision did the Police take in order to dismantle rough sleepers, it was believed that 10 officers demolished tents and removed vulnerable people. Supt Richards advised Councillor Townsend that only three police officers along with three Community Support officers, in support with the Council took part in a cleaning operation. Gwent was also one of the few authorities in Britain that had not used the Vagrancy Act. Police do not want to criminalise vulnerable people in these situations.
- Councillor Truman raised serious concern about the speeding traffic along Chepstow Road, several accidents had occurred, including one as recently as two days previously.
 Supt Richards would look into this and provide an update before the week was out for Councillor Truman.
- Councillor A Morris referred to the reduction in crime figures and asked was the increase as a result of extra patrols or smarter policing, and could more officers be employed to help with the reduction in crime. Supt Richards advised that the reduction was from proactive work targeting prolific offenders. This had a positive knock on effect. It would be nice to have more officers but realistically, there was a sufficient number of officers within the City.
- Councillor J Guy praised Police in respect of the Crash Detective programme. It was important that it was conveyed to the wider public the multi-task work carried out and people were not aware of their hard work. Supt Richards thanked Councillor Guy for his kind words and provided an open invitation for members who would like to spend time with the police to see what their duties involved on a day to day basis across the city.
- Councillor R Mogford referred to the drug situation and the problem was a supply and demand issue and asked if the Police had an idea of how many drug dealers there were in the city. Supt Richards advised that it was difficult to give an exact reply. Newport was renowned as a cheap area to buy drugs and people came far and wide for this reason. The problem didn't seem to be increasing. There was an awareness of the amount of organised crime groups within Newport and that was where the work was prioritised. Supt Richards would be more than happy to sit down and talk about the organised crime groups in Newport with Councillor Mogford.
- Councillor Whitcutt appreciated that the Police would keep pressure on drugs issue in Maesglas as it was important to recognise it was not a stand-alone crime. Drug use could lead to other crimes and domestic abuse. People in places like Maesglas, Pill and Bettws had a right to a peaceful time as well as those that lived in Rogerstone. People in these areas were decent law abiding citizens. Supt Richards had taken on this on board however, it was important for residents to report crime, as this was a genuine concern. Supt Richards finally asked that residents continued to report incidents and keep faith with the police.

5. Revised Contract Standing Orders

The Leader gave a detailed presentation of the report, which proposed to update the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO's) that were reviewed in accordance with the stipulated three-year review period, taking into account national/local developments and priorities. This proposal was agreed at the December 2019 Cabinet meeting.

In particular, it made recommendations to change the Council's Procurement Gateway Process, which governed how the Council procured goods and services with a greater

emphasis on providing more opportunity to support Local Businesses whilst maintaining compliance with statutory Public Procurement rules, ensuring efficient and effective delivery of contract arrangements within the Council.

Resolved:

That Council unanimously considered and approved the revised Contract Standing Orders.

6. Treasury Management Report for the Period to 30 September 2019

The Leader presented the report, informing Council that during the first half of the financial year, the Council continued to be both a short-term investor of cash and borrower to manage day-to-day cash flows. Forecasts currently indicated that in the future, temporary borrowing would continue to be required to fund normal day to day cash flow activities. No additional temporary borrowing was required in the first half of the year, however there was a small amount of long-term borrowing taken at zero interest for a specific project.

All borrowing and investments undertaken during the first half of the year was expected and within the Council's agreed limits.

Resolved:

That Council unanimously noted and approved the report on treasury management activities for the period to 30 September 2019 in line with the agreed Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20.

7. Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Leader presented the report, informing Council that the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for 2020/21 updated the scheme that was first introduced on 1st April 2015.

The Council was not required to consult on the proposals of the new scheme as the changes made were in consequence of amendments made to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations. The local discretions that were available to the Council would remain unchanged. The report provided information on the proposed Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

Resolved:

That the Council unanimously approved the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020/21 in accordance with the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Schemes) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 ("the Prescribed Requirements Regulations") exercising its local discretions as indicated in the report.

8. Director of Social Services Annual Report 2018-2019

The Cabinet Member for Social Services presented to Council the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services.

This was not normally presented by the Cabinet Member however the Corporate Director had retired in November 2019.

Performance adults – strong performance generally

Hospital Discharge is just above where it should be but this is a complex area of work and the figure is representative of greater activity in the hospitals.

Initiatives such as In Reach where Social Workers start to work with patients to plan their discharge whilst still on the ward and the availability of Reablement services lead to faster turnaround times that can result in increased pressure on community based social care services

Reablement is having a positive impact with 84% of people discharged from the service with no further support needs or with a reduction in their care plan.

To further support and develop this culture we are moving towards a an intake model of Reablement which means that even people who have never had a care package are given Reablement upon discharge to ensure their independence is maximised.

<u>Performance children – the end of year figures are reasonable within the context of increasing number and complexity of referrals.</u>

58% of the measures are green – nine measures have shown an improvement against the previous period. A growing degree of complexity and increased demand has had a significant impact on the ability to meet WG targets

The number of children supported to remain with their family is 8% below target and joint working arrangements between Barnardo's and NCC staff have been improved with the introduction of Family Group Conferencing where families work together with professionals in a structured way to resolve their issues.

The number of children returned home from care should be at 13% and it is at 8.3%. This reflects the level of complexity around cases and reassurance can be given that all children are regularly reviewed and the best option is found for the child

The percentage of children who have had 3 or more placements is at 15.63% against a target of 9%. To mitigate this the Corporate Parenting Forum has been reinvigorated and consultation opportunities with children and young people have been improved to ensure we have sufficient resources to support children when they first come into care.

Levels of homelessness within care leavers has increased to 21% against a target of 10%. This reflects National trends but focussed work is being undertaken in Newport to review all of the 16+ accommodation. Additional properties have been sourced and a Service Manager supported by a Team Manager oversees all accommodation related services Care leavers in education, training or employment 12 months after leaving care is recorded as 36.36% against a target of 50%, the number improves at 24 months to 49%. This has been a trend in past years but work will be focussed in 2019/20 to improve choices for work experience, apprenticeships and training opportunities.

The Welsh Government were currently consulting on a new set of measures that will be implemented on a phased basis from 2020.

Early Intervention & Prevention

Adults

Information, advice and assistance - First Contact Team is where people can be signposted by a multi-disciplinary team including Safeguarding, OT's and Housing Advice, sensory impairment, direct payment and financial advice.

79% of adults who received advice and assistance from the First Contact Team did not make a further enquiry within 6 months – indicates the provision of appropriate support at the earliest point.

The citizen survey recorded that 66% of adults received the right advice and information when needed

Home first is an example of a WG transformation programme regional initiative that has extended the offer of IAA to the hospital setting as the team offer support to people on pre admission wards with a view to preventing admission. The initiative started in November

2018 and indications are that it is becoming embedded into hospital culture and is now a key partner in the process of discharge planning.

The report was the Director's evaluation of 2018/19 performance for Social Services. It conformed in format and content with the statutory requirements for the Director's Report.

Comments from Councillors:

- Councillor Truman noted the report showed evidence based, very good work, intertwined with the wellbeing objectives and thanked all the officers, carers, families and volunteers, who had often faced difficult times and this should be applauded and in particular the volunteers who were the unsung heroes.
- Councillor Giles agreed entirely with Councillor Truman and thanked all those involved for their outstanding work. There was a need to focus on the young carer service and the knock on effect in their home life and school work. The support for young carers was fantastic, with the provision of away days and support groups with an opportunity for children to meet up in similar circumstances.
- Councillor Jeavons echoed the comments of his colleagues and referred to the reduction in custodial sentences; only four for the period, which was the lowest recorded in Newport. Councillor Jeavons asked that this be raised in Primary Schools within Newport.
- Councillor Guy highlighted that this was an important service that covered all ages and back grounds and if this service fell down, would have serious consequences.
- Councillor M Evans mentioned that the Conservative group welcomed the report although it was not all a bed of roses. Homelessness figures with 10% of young people leaving care which had doubled from 12.5% to 22%. It was therefore hoped there was a significant improvement since the report for 18/19 was published. Secondly the report referred to the excellent work Barnardos had undertaken to keep families together and it was hoped the budget cuts would not have an impact on this service. Finally, concern was raised at the Scrutiny Management Committee in November in relation to performance measures required by Welsh Government. There was an inconsistent interpretation and methodology recorded across Wales were not robust; such as dental care for children which was low in percentage. Councillor Evans therefore welcomed the Cabinet Member writing to the Welsh Government and requested that he write again regarding these issues.
- Councillor D Williams drew attention to positive comments from young children put in the report of their experience with Newport, notwithstanding the issues raised by his colleague.
- The Deputy Mayor invited the Cabinet Member to reply. Councillor Cockeram had raised concerns with the Minister, as mentioned by Councillor Evans and would take on board the comments regarding Barnardo's. This was currently out for consultation. Homelessness was an issue and Newport must do more and provide floating support.

Resolved:

The Council unanimously agreed to receive the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services, 2018/19.

9. Council Schedule of Meetings for 2020/2021

The proposed schedule of meetings attempted to structure the diary with a series of meetings to facilitate the decision making process through the Council, Executive and

Regulatory Committees. The schedule of meetings also set a pattern of meetings for Scrutiny Committees and other bodies.

The schedule would remain a guide and subject to change and amendment to meet the needs of the work programmes of each committee or other group.

Resolved:

That the Council unanimously adopted the schedule of meetings as the basis for arrangements for May 2020 to May 2021, recognising it was subject to change and amendment to meet the needs of the work programmes of each committee or other group.

10. Mayoral Nomination for 2020/2021

The Leader announced that the nomination for Mayor of Newport during 2020/21 would be Councillor D Williams and offered her congratulations and hoped that Councillor Williams would enjoy his year.

This was seconded by Councillor M Evans.

Councillor D Williams declared an interest.

Resolved:

The Council unanimously resolved that Councillor D Williams be appointed to serve as the Mayor Newport for 2020/21.

11. Questions to the Leader of the Council

The Leader gave the following announcements, before proceeding with guestions:

The Leader had mentioned that she was privileged to recently attend the third South Wales Argus Schools Education Awards and wanted to highlight the tremendous work being carried out in schools and colleges across Newport. Wales was undergoing the most significant transformation in over 40 years and pupil wellbeing was essential to everything we do. Our Schools provide a safe and nurturing environment, with breakfast and afterschool clubs a whole host of services so that children can enjoy all aspects of school life to ensure that they are thriving and not surviving.

The Leader was delighted to receive school visitors at the Civic Centre from all over Newport, along with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and senior officers, to mark the Welsh Network of health school scheme's highly regarded National Quality Awards. The Schools receiving this award was Glasllwch, Gaer, Mount Pleasant, St Andrews, Maindee, Eveswell, Clytha, Langstone, Malpas Court, Liwswerry Primary Schools, Ysgol Cymraeg Casnewydd and Fairoak Nursery, all of whom were to be congratulated. Seven themes were achieved to gain this award, including food and fitness emotional development and wellbeing. What stood out was the length of time for a school to get this award and accreditation; it could take up to nine years, huge commitment for schools and we should all be very proud.

The Leader also attended the 2020 Holocaust Memorial Day service at the Cathedral, moving service led by pupils. The Leader thanked, in particular, Caerleon Comprehensive who sang, Gwent Music Service and Langstone Primary School for the candle procession as well as the teachers for instilling values for pupils into their adult lives.

The Leader had mentioned that one of her focuses for Newport was sustainable development; social, cultural and economic. There would be an addition of 17 extra electric vehicle charging points in Newport following a feasibility study, which was excellent news. These would be available for residents and visitors.

The Leader also congratulated Newport Now which was part of the Business Improvement District for successfully renewing their bid for the next five years and was looking forward mutual aim to help businesses thrive within the community. The Leader and the Chief Executive met with them recently to discuss their future plans.

The Regeneration Programme continued to move at pace with the development of Chartist Tower. The £1.3M investment managed by Newport Now was vital to success of the City Centre over the next five years.

Finally, the Leader notified colleagues of recent meetings and events that she had recently attended including Public Service Board, the G10 Summit, Cardiff City Region and Western Gateway, important partnerships with how the council worked going forward. The Leader highlighted work discussed at the G10 Summit and Public Service Board which involved the work that Public Health Wales was undertaking. As part of this, there was also a Building a Better Gwent report and an all member seminar was planned for 4 March, where Dr Sarah Aitken would be presenting her findings.

Leader's Questions

Councillor M Evans had recently visited Toulouse, which was a larger city than Newport and observed that he had come across only one homeless person and there was no begging. Sadly, this could not be said about Newport. Homeless people deserved all the support they could get and the problem had reached epidemic proportions. Multiple organisations and support was in place but no one could provide appropriate accommodation for these homeless people. Residents and business contacted Councillor Evans, concerned about used needles, excrement, rubbish and the intimidation felt by residents in relation to aggressive begging. Something needed to be done to address this once and for all, did the Leader agree with this.

The Leader advised that Newport had adopted a homeless strategy, covering Newport and Gwent region and was working in partnership to offer advice and support and focus on early intervention and ensure that person centred homelessness advice was provided. It was necessary to consider the issue on a macro scale, in line with the social structure and the cultural differences to the social structure and approach in France. The approach was to consider the social structure on a personal basis and recognised the challenges raised. A round table was held with Welsh Government, third sector, Public Health Wales and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board last November to discuss how to address issue as a city. Newport was also working closely with Welsh Government Colleagues in Cardiff, Swansea and Wrexham to try and address the issue of rough sleeping to put together an action plan and resource allocation to enable the Council to do this. The Council therefore did have matter in hand.

Supplementary:

Councillor M Evans informed the Leader that the brutal answer was that people were tired of excuses, and whilst there was a risk register in place, the people's perception of coming to Newport was crucial, especially with the development of the Chartist Tower. Two business had recently left the City Centre because of this issue. Councillor Evans also referred to the last Cabinet meeting where empty properties were discussed, the figures equated to 18 properties per year, there was also concern regarding this. Urgent action was needed, therefore what was to be done as a result.

The Leader had provided a response and the answer to the question remained the same however Councillor Evans could be provided with further detail in writing.

Councillor K Whitehead asked if management consultants had been appointed to look at budget cuts and if so, was it at a cost of £30K.

The Leader was not aware of this but would provide a written response for Councillor Whitehead from the Chief Executive.

Supplementary:

Councillor Whitehead asked, if there was extra money, could this be better spent on litter and cleaning the clock tower.

The Leader reiterated that she was not aware that this took place. In additional, the clock tower, was a listed building, which needed specialist cleaning by hand, this would not take priority over service delivery.

Councillor C Townsend referred to the homelessness issue mentioned earlier under Police Issues and asked was the Leader happy that police dismantled rough sleepers.

The Leader clarified that the area was cleansed, by the request of homeless support groups, businesses and members of the public due to the concerns to public health. The encampment referred to was also subject of a recent fire. The Leader emphasised that it was not moving homeless people out, but a cleansing of the area. The Police and Community Support Officers helped move the rough sleepers, only because there was a risk of contamination from sharp objects. The Leader thanked the operatives for their hard work, as they were faced with challenges and risk to their health. There were no evictions of rough sleepers and the only items that were removed were those beyond repair.

Supplementary:

Councillor Townsend asked where were the people since the cleaning operation.

The Leader advised that the location in question was still an encampment and homeless people were being assessed, with one person being successfully housed. Some people were not engaging with the support group therefore it was difficult to give a detailed account on where all the rough sleepers were.

12. Questions to the Cabinet Members

There were no questions to Cabinet Members received on this occasion.

13. Questions to the Chairs of Committees

There were no questions to Chairs of Committees on this occasion.

14. Standards Committee Minutes

The Minutes of the Standards Committee meeting from 7 November 2019 were noted.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 27 February 2020 at 5pm in the Council Chambers.

The meeting terminated at Time Not Specified