



COUNCIL MEETING

16 JULY 2020

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020/21

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to the proposed calendar of meetings for 2020/21.
2. Every year a calendar of meetings is drawn up for the Council's main decision making bodies and overview and scrutiny committees for the following municipal year. The calendar of meetings assists in the effective planning of the consideration of Council business and with the preparation of the Cabinet's schedule of decisions.
3. The Cabinet on 25 February 2020 considered the draft calendar of meetings for 2020/21.
4. All councillors received a Coronavirus briefing update on 16 March 2020 explaining that the Corporate Management Team had reviewed the Council's calendar of meetings from that date until the start of the summer recess to determine which meetings should be recommended for cancellation or postponement. This was to allow the Council to free up officer time in order to focus on business-critical activities to protect the most vulnerable in our communities. This has resulted in significant changes to the calendar in recent months.
5. The report considered by the Cabinet on 25 February is attached. The draft calendar of meetings for 2020/21 set out in Appendix 2 starts with effect from the date of this Council meeting. It is envisaged that some of the meetings set out in the calendar will be cancelled or postponed during the ongoing pandemic but members will be kept advised of any changes.
6. In addition, due the pandemic the local elections scheduled for 7 May 2020 were postponed until 6 May 2021. This has had an impact on the proposed dates of some meetings in May 2021 including the Annual Council Meeting. Therefore, the dates of these meetings have been changed in Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATION

8. It is recommended that Council:
 - (i) approves the calendar of meetings 2020/21;
 - (ii) agrees that, as far as possible, meetings should not be held during school holidays; and

- (iii) authorises the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance, following consultation with the relevant Chair, to make any necessary amendments to the calendar of meetings.