

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

SELECTION AND MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Selection and Member Services Committee held in the Wantsum Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 14 March 2013.

PRESENT: Mr A H T Bowles (Substitute for Mr P J Homewood), Mr P B Carter, Mr G Cooke (Substitute for Mr M J Whiting), Mr M C Dance, Mrs T Dean, Mr A J King, MBE, Mr B J Sweetland and Mrs J Whittle

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr G Wild (Director of Governance and Law), Mr P Sass (Head of Democratic Services), Mr D Whittle (Head of Policy and Strategic Relationships), Mr T Godfrey (Research Officer to Health Overview Scrutiny Committee) and Mr A Tait (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

3. Election of Chairman

(Item)

(1) Mrs J Whittle moved, seconded by Mr A H T Bowles that Mr A J King be elected Chairman for the meeting.

Carried Unanimously

(2) Mr A J King thereupon took the Chair.

4. Minutes - 24 January 2013

(Item 3)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2013 are correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.

5. Member Induction and Development

(Item 4)

(1) Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation of the work undertaken to date and suggested that retiring Members of the Council could be approached to offer their support in developing new Members. It was also suggested that elected Members should be asked to play a participatory role in interactive training such as Chairmanship Skills.

(2) RESOLVED that the ongoing work and initiatives for the development of the Member Induction and Development programme be noted, together with the suggestions set out in (1) above.

6. Establishment of the Health and Wellbeing Board

(Item 5)

(1) During discussion of this item, the Committee agreed that the report to the County Council would include provision for Opposition Group Membership of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board and for a review after 12 months.

(2) RESOLVED that the County Council be recommended to:-

- (a) establish the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board as a committee of Kent County Council;
- (b) agree the KCC membership of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board as set out in paragraph 7 of the report (subject to the inclusion of Opposition Group membership amongst the Kent County Council representatives) and the governance arrangements set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (c) agree that the arrangements be reviewed after 12 months.

7. Revision of Terms of Reference and Protocols for the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(Item 6)

(1) The Research Officer to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee asked the Committee to agree the deletion of the words "decisions as to whether to ask full County Council for a" from paragraph 6 (10) of the proposed Terms of Reference and Protocol set out in Annex B to the report. This was agreed.

(2) RESOLVED that subject to (1) above, the County Council be recommended to approve the revised Terms of Reference and Protocol for Health Overview and Scrutiny in Kent and to amend Appendix 2 Part 2 of the Constitution accordingly.

8. Education Appeals Panels

(Item 7)

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) agreement be given that School Admission Appeal Panels and Independent Review Panels on Exclusions comprising three members;
- (b) the existing practice of paying for travel and subsistence claims in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme be confirmed in respect of Education Appeal Panel and Independent Review Panel members;
- (c) agreement be given that the Dependants' Carers' Allowance can be paid to Education Appeal Panel and Independent Review Panel members in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme;

- (d) agreement be given to the payment of earnings loss allowance of up to a maximum of £55.31 for a full day and a maximum of £27.65 for half a day subject to the receipt of a certificate from the Appeal Panel member's employer or supporting evidence from a self-employed member's accountant or other appropriate evidence; and
- (e) the consideration of loss of earnings for Education Appeal Panel members be referred to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

9. Authority to Participate in legal proceedings and Rights of Audience
(Item 8)

RESOLVED that the County Council be recommended to approve:-

- (a) the following underlined amendment to Article 13.3 of the Constitution:-

“The Monitoring Officer is authorised to institute, defend or participate in and settle any legal proceedings, or authorise others to do so, in any case where such action is necessary to give effect to decisions of the Council or in any case where he considers that such action is necessary to protect or pursue the Council's interest or where he considers it expedient for the promotion or protection of the interests of the inhabitants of Kent”; and
- (b) the authorisation to the Monitoring Officer to hold a list of authorised officers pursuant to Article 13.3 and that the Monitoring Officer be further authorised to make additions, removals or amendments to the list as appropriate in his opinion.