COUNCIL – 21ST FEBRUARY 2022

Report of the Chief Executive

Part A

ITEM 13 DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS: DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS TO THE LEADER

Purpose of Report

To inform Council of a delegation of an Executive function to the Leader and Deputy Leader.

Action Requested

In accordance with Full Council Procedure 9.11(d) questions may be asked of the Leader in relation to the changes to the delegation of Executive functions.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

At the Council Meeting on 20th May 2019, Council resolved that Councillor Jonathan Morgan be appointed Leader of the Council for the Council term 2019/20 to 2022/23. (Council minute 8 2019/20 refers).

As required by the Constitution, the Chief Executive reports to Council whenever the Leader makes a change to the composition of the Cabinet, or to the allocation of Executive functions to the Cabinet, individual Cabinet members or officers.

Delegation of Executive functions to the Leader

Where it is not possible to convene a face to face in person meeting then Cabinet will meet informally via virtual meetings. In such circumstances it is necessary for Executive decisions to be delegated to the Leader, as Executive decisions cannot lawfully be made at any virtual Cabinet meetings.

The Leader took a decision to delegate Executive decision-making powers to himself initially on 30th April 2021, then on 30th October 2021 and a further extension was made on 1st February 2022 for a further 3-month period in accordance with section 9E of the Local Government Act 2000.

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 expired on 6th May 2021 and this delegation enables the Cabinet to meet informally via virtual meetings where it is deemed appropriate. To date Cabinet have met informally on three occasions due to the high Covid infection rates in the UK and across Leicestershire. Details are set out in the Annex to this report.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The Leader may amend the size and composition of the Cabinet and the scheme of delegation relating to Executive functions at any time during the year. The Chief Executive will present a report to the next ordinary meeting of the Council setting out the changes made by the Leader.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with the changes to the delegation of Executive functions are set out in the annexes.

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified in connection with this report.

Background Papers: None

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