

DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 10TH APRIL 2014

The Cabinet considered a report by the IMD Service Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) summarising a proposal to withdraw Council funded IT equipment for Members and promote the purchase of iPads from Members allowances. The proposal had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) whose comments were relayed to the Cabinet.

In the discussions that ensued, Executive Councillors were advised that the proposal would enable the authority to achieve savings in the region of £50k and that there would be further savings through the reduction of printed reports. Having noted the proposal for Members to use non-HDC approved email addresses for Council business Executive Councillors queried whether it would be possible to set up private email addresses for Councillors that easily identified them as a Member of the District Council. In response, the IMD Service Manager undertook to investigate the matter further.

Executive Councillors concurred with the Overview and Scrutiny Panel that appropriate training and support would be required for all Members prior to implementation and that the WIFI facility within the Civic Suite should be stress tested. Having also referred to transition arrangements, access to the Council's IT resources within Pathfinder House and current arrangements for funding of broadband connections for Members, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

- (a) that Council-funded IT equipment for Members be withdrawn, with continued support only being provided in exceptional circumstances;
- (b) that the purchase of iPads from Members allowances be approved;
- (c) that, where possible, printed agendas and reports for Members meetings be withdrawn;
- (d) that the principle that all Members should use non-HDC (but HDC approved) email addresses for Council business be supported;
- (e) that HDC funded broadband connections be withdrawn; and
- (f) that, with effect from 1st May 2014, it be compulsory for newly elected Members to participate in the iPad scheme.

It was also RECOMMENDED to Council that the Members' IT and telephone support guidelines in the Council's Constitution be varied accordingly to reflect the above.

[In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24, a request from Councillor K J Churchill to address the Cabinet on this item was declined by the Chairman.]