

## **Meeting of the Council**

**Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 at 6.00pm**  
**In the Council Chamber,**  
**The Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the numbered agenda items listed below.

### **Agenda - Public Session** **(Meeting open to the public and press)**

#### Prayers

1. Apologies for absence
2. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct
3. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 as a correct record (Pages 7 to 20)
4. Mayor's Announcements
5. Statutory Recommendations from External Auditors Grant Thornton (Section 24 Schedule 7 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014) (Pages 21 to 30)
6. To receive reports from meetings as follows:

Meeting of the Cabinet dated 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

Councillor P Harley to move:

- (a) Capital Programme Monitoring (Pages 31 to 62)

(b) Suspension of Council Plan 2022-25 (Pages 63 to 65)

(c) Annual Review of the Constitution (Pages 66 to 73)

Councillor L Taylor-Childs to move:

(d) Review of Housing Finance (Pages 74 to 89)

Councillor S Clark to move:

(e) Dudley Council Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 (Pages 90 to 110)

Meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee dated 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

Councillor A Lees to move:

(f) Treasury Management (Pages 111 to 130)

Meeting of the Appointments Committee dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024

Councillor P Harley to move:

(g) Appointment of Director of Environment (Pages 131 to 132)

7. The Dudley (Electoral Changes) Order 2024 (Pages 133 to 136)

8. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations (Pages 137 to 162)

9. Appointment of Returning Officer, Electoral Registration Officer and Deputy Electoral Registration Officer (Pages 163 to 165)

10 Composition and Membership of Committees (Pages 166 to 181)

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11. Notices of Motion

(a) To consider the following notice of motion received from Councillor R Priest on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2024:

## Tackling Anti-social use of Off-Road Vehicles

Anti-social use of off-road vehicles, including quadbikes, motorbikes, scramblers and mini motors is an issue that affects many parts of the borough, and is causing particular nuisance in parks and green spaces. While the use of these vehicles is permitted on private land with the land owners permission, the Road Traffic Act 1988 prohibits their use where no permission has been given.

The Council recognises that tackling the anti-social use of off-road vehicles requires a proactive multi-agency approach involving the local authority, neighbourhood police teams, the wider West Midlands Police and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Council also recognises that in parts of the borough, there has been a failure to respond appropriately to the anti-social use of off-road vehicles.

The Council additionally recognises that Stevens Park, Wollescote, is one part of the borough where there has been a failure to respond appropriately to the anti-social use of off-road vehicles.

The Council expresses its dissatisfaction with the response of the Police and Crime Commissioner for failing to adequately address the issue of the use of anti-social use of off-road vehicles in the Dudley Borough, particularly in Stevens Park, Wollescote.

The Council therefore resolves to:

- Ask the relevant Officer to conduct a survey amongst the elected Members of this Council asking Members to identify areas within their ward where anti-social use of off-road vehicles occurs and use the results of this survey to improve signage discouraging the use of off-road vehicles.

- Introduce a system where elected Members can report addresses to the Council which are suspected to be involved in the anti-social use of off-road vehicles, and the Council to send letters to these addresses outlining the legality of the anti-social use of off-road vehicles and the consequences of their continued use.
- Ask the relevant Directorate to install a trip rail fence around the perimeter of Stevens Park, Wollescote, while maintaining access points for pedestrians, pushchairs, and wheelchairs.
- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner informing them of this motion, and the Councils' dissatisfaction with the response of the Police and Crime Commissioner for failing to adequately address the issue of the anti-social use of off-road vehicles in the Dudley Borough, particularly in Stevens Park, Wollescote.
- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority in May, once the result of the election to the post is known, requesting an urgent meeting to develop a strategy to tackle the anti-social use of off-road vehicles. This meeting should involve appropriate Cabinet Members, Ward Councillors, and community groups.

12. Questions from Members under Council Procedure Rule 11

13. To consider any business not on the agenda which by reason of special circumstances the Mayor is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972

**Distribution:** All Members of the Council



**Deputy Chief Executive**

**Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**

## **Meetings at Dudley Council House:**

### **Health and Safety**

- In view of ongoing health and safety requirements in the workplace, you are asked to comply with any safety instructions applicable to the venue. Various mitigating actions are in place to minimise any risks and to ensure we adhere to the latest guidance.

### **Public Gallery**

- Seating in the public gallery is subject to limits on capacity and will be allocated on a 'first come' basis.

### **Toilets**

- Toilet facilities are available on site and are subject to safety measures that are in place. All the toilets have hand washing facilities.

### **No smoking**

- There is no smoking on the premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

### **In Case of Emergency**

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

### **Submitting Apologies for Absence**

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below).

## **Private and Confidential Information**

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

## **Recording and Reporting**

- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- The public session of this meeting will be recorded and broadcast on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#)

## **General**

- Public Wi-Fi is available.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

## **If you need advice or assistance**

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail [Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk)

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