

Chairman of PRED Supplemental Report / Speaking Note for Ordinary Council June 26th 2019

Fellow members, unfortunately the report published with the Ordinary Council papers under agenda item 9 for the Policy Resources and Economic Development Committee (PRED) was not authorised by me. It is officer generated and whilst it provides some base information on activity, this note is the report that you should rely upon.

PRED's first meeting will occur on July 10th, but whilst the Committee has not yet met the Chairman and Deputy in consultation with the leader have been actively working with officers on our agenda. The activity in this report is from the agenda set by the Chairman for the coming year.

The first meeting of PRED will comprise over 330 pages across 20 papers. Those papers will cover:

- 1) Confirming the CWG membership – preliminary meetings have occurred with officers, and external legal support is being sought to enable the CWG to deal with members concerns on the chapter of our constitution that deals with how meetings operate, and how officers and members work together. Meetings will be set as soon as that support has been found. In addition, the CWG will be addressing past concerns over how to approach revision to the planning chapter, and to look at past changes made without member input. To that end there is a motion on tonight's agenda finally addressing CWG concerns for member input on constitution changes from January 2017.

- 2) Data Protection – PRED has taken over responsibility that was split between the old Policy Project Finance Committee and the Regulatory and Governance Committee in regards to data protection. PRED will be reviewing our compliance, and has already ensured we shall be appointing a Data Protection Officer at the July meeting.

- 3) Economic Development is a key part of the committee's work. A session has already been had with the development officers to discuss this. PRED will be receiving a report on the economic make-up of the borough, and we shall be engaging in a project to identify what kinds of business can be attracted to our borough. We have already found consultants, multi-nationals, major professional services companies and other boroughs willing to offer us free advice. We will be exploring opportunities for partnerships with major businesses to drive investment in the borough, and we shall seek to identify opportunities to create centres of excellence for specific business types. Business types under early consideration are Green finance/technology, technology/programming, hubs, logistics and onshore back office for London professional and financial services. We will also be looking to residents with expertise for support our ambition to make Brentwood a go to choose to start businesses. The precise plans will be based on data analysis and looking at effective practices in other boroughs.

- 4) PRED will be looking at Green Initiatives that the council can engage in to drive improvements in our services, our assets and more widely how to promote a green agenda across our borough.
- 5) PRED will also be looking in depth at the governance structures of the council especially in regard to SAIL and our proposed Joint Venture.
- 6) PRED is reviewing the member portal and will be surveying members for your views as to the best way to deal with case work and officer inter-actions.
- 7) PRED is reviewing all our outsourced arrangements, with a view to ensuring we are receiving the quality service the borough deserves, and to consider which should continue and which should change.
- 8) PRED will be enshrining a clear annual training offering for members, and be reviewing the quality of said training.
- 9) Communications associated with the council, both press releases and online activity will be reviewed.
- 10) The Corporate Plan needs to be renewed, consultation of members has begun, review of other authorities for best practice is also occurring. PRED will be overseeing the production of the new plan for the next 3-5 years.
- 11) PRED will be looking at how we operate elections.
- 12) Parking orders and related matters are on the agenda.
- 13) The business plan to improve King George's Playing Field is to be brought to PRED, as is the Housing Development Programme.

14) PRED is also working on a time line and actions required to complete the Local Development Plan process.

15) PRED is also looking at our assets, our Town Hall's development, asset maximisation, financial matters, and the usual statutory requirements such as the outturn report.

For the benefit of all members we shall also be looking at the frequency of meetings, the quality of papers and their presentation to make our meetings more effective. We shall also be looking at how best to ensure members are kept informed on relevant information year round.

Councillor Tumbridge, Chairman of the Policy Resources and Economic Development Committee