

## Agenda Item 15: Urgent Item

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Stephen Cooksey

**Strategic Leadership Team Lead:** Karen Brimacombe

**Author:** Lucy O'Connell

**Telephone:** 01306 879384

**Email:** lucy.oconnell@molevalley.gov.uk

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Key Decision:** No

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**SUBJECT: Dorking Town Partnership Limited and the Dorking Business Improvement District**

**Recommendation:**

The Cabinet is asked to confirm that

- the Executive Head of Service with responsibility for Economic Development as the Council's representative (as a BID member) on the Dorking Town Partnership Limited and;
- Councillor Stephen Cooksey be appointed as the Resident Representative, a voting member of the Board, of the Dorking Town Partnership Limited.

**The Cabinet has the authority to determine the Recommendation**

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### 1.0 Background/Introduction

- 1.1 In December 2017 a decision was taken to apply for membership of the Dorking Town Partnership Limited, enabling the Council to participate in the way that the Dorking Town partnership operate the Dorking Business Improvement District (BID).
- 1.2 Dorking Town Partnership Limited is a company limited by guarantee. As such it has members rather than shareholders who are entitled to
  - Receive a copy of the company's annual account
  - Attend general meetings and cast a vote
  - Elect directors by voting at the members' meeting and
  - Vote on any significant changes to the company, its purpose, its name or how any profit is applied.

- 1.3 The Council's application was successful and as a member of Dorking Town Partnership Limited, was entered in the company's register of members and is bound by the provisions of the company's articles of association.
- 1.4 At the time of the Council's application Mr Jack Straw, Head of Planning was named as the responsible officer to act as the member of the Dorking Town Partnership Limited on behalf of Mole Valley District Council.
- 1.5 To ensure that the Council maintains its entitlements, as detailed in paragraph 1.2, agreement is required to amend the officer representation from the Head of Planning to the Executive Head of Service with responsibility for Economic Development.
- 1.6 Voting by the Executive Head of Service with responsibility for Economic Development, on behalf of Mole Valley District Council at member meetings would be taken in the light of the agreement with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, who is a member of the Board of the Dorking Town Partnership Limited.
- 1.7 In addition to the Council's member representative as detailed above, the Dorking Town Partnership's Articles of Association state that,
- 'Mole Valley District Council shall be entitled to a member position on the board as the portfolio holder of MVDC and a resident representative from the Dorking North and South Ward Councillors.'*
- entitling the Council to appoint two Councillors to the Dorking Town Partnership Limited Board and be formally appointed as Directors.
- 1.9 At present the appointment of the Cabinet Member is formally approved at the Annual Council meeting as an appointment to an outside organisation. It has been proposed that the resident representative be added to the schedule of annual appointments.
- 1.10 The Cabinet are asked to make an in year appointment, confirming Councillor Stephen Cooksey as the resident representative until the Annual Council meeting in May 2021.

### **Financial Implications**

None arising from this report.

### **Legal Implications**

None arising from this report.

### **Risk Implications**

None arising from this report.

## **2.0 Options**

Option One: To appoint to the outside organisations as per the recommendations, this will ensure that Mole Valley continues to be represented with the organisations.

Option Two: If the appointment are not confirmed, there could be reputational consequences as it would be unclear as to how these organisations work with the Council in the most effective way.

### **3.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **Monitoring Officer commentary**

The Monitoring Officer has confirmed that all relevant legal implications have been taken into account

#### **S151 Officer commentary**

There are no financial implications in making these changes.

#### **Risk Implications**

None for the purposes of this report.

#### **Equalities Implications**

None for the purposes of this report.

#### **Employment and Resource Implications**

None for the purposes of this report.

#### **Sustainability Issues**

None for the purposes of this report.

#### **Consultation**

None for the purposes of this report.

#### **Communications**

None for the purposes of this report.