

# Public Document Pack

## Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

### Legal & Democratic Services

Strategic Director: John Williams

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24 July 2020

Dear Councillor

### THE COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 30TH JULY, 2020

Please find enclosed, for consideration at the next meeting of the The Council taking place on Thursday, 30th July, 2020, the following report(s) that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item
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3	<b><u>Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)</u></b> <b>(Pages 1 - 4)</b>
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(a) Minutes of the Special Cabinet held Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 attached.

(b) Minutes of the Special Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee held 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 attached

Robert Harris  
Principal Democratic Services Officer



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**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Meeting of Cabinet**

**Date: Wednesday, 22nd July, 2020**  
**Place: Virtual Meeting via MS Teams**

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**Present:** Councillor I Gilbert (Chair)  
Councillors R Woodley (Vice-Chair), T Harp, A Jones, C Mulroney,  
K Robinson and M Terry

**In Attendance:** Councillors Cowan and K Evans  
A Griffin, A Lewis, T Forster, M Marks, A Griffin, J Williams, A Lewis,  
J Chesterton, C Gamble, S Dolling and A Keating

**Start/End Time:** 2.00 - 2.22 pm

**176 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence at this meeting.

**177 Declarations of Interest**

The following Councillor declared an interest as indicated:

(a) Councillor Jones – Agenda Item 3 – Report from the ASELA – non-pecuniary interest: the work done with ASELA relates to her husband’s employer.

**178 Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive presenting a report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA) providing an update on progressing the economic agenda for the South Essex region.

Resolved:

The Cabinet fully supports a collaboration with South Essex Authorities to deliver regeneration across South Essex and

1. Notes ASELA’s intention to immediately engage with Central Government ahead of the autumn Spending Review, regarding the economic agenda for the South Essex region, how it can deliver new jobs, new transport infrastructure, new homes and better outcomes for its existing and new residents and businesses (as set out in the ‘Growth and Recovery Prospectus 2020’ at Enclosure No. 2) as a starting point for those negotiations;
2. Rejects the conclusion of the ‘Review of Governance in South Essex’ (Enclosure No. 3) and confirms that this Cabinet opposes a directly elected mayoral form of governance, or any form of governance that diminishes the powers of the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council as a unitary authority and the largest conurbation in Essex;

3. Is prepared to discuss with Government and the Districts/Boroughs of Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Rochford and Thurrock, the formulation for South Essex of a joint arrangement to deal with a defined number of cross boundary and strategic matters. Such arrangement to be made up of elected members of the constituent local authorities, supported as appropriate by representatives of the local LEP and other relevant stakeholders, under terms of reference to be agreed by those local authorities; and

4. Notes that a further report will be presented later in the calendar year to provide an update on the outcome of the negotiations with Central Government.

Reasons for recommendation:

To provide an update on progress.

Other options:

To note the ASELA update report without any comments.

Note: This is an Executive Function

Any future significant decisions regarding governance/joint working would constitute a Council function.

**Referred direct to Special Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee**

Cabinet Member: Cllr Gilbert

**Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Meeting of Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

**Date: Wednesday, 22nd July, 2020**

**Place: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams**

- Present:** Councillor D Garston (Chair)  
Councillors D McGlone (Vice-Chair), D Burzotta, D Cowan, T Cox, P Collins, M Davidson, M Dent, S George, S Habermel, H McDonald, D Nelson, I Shead, M Stafford, S Wakefield and P Wexham
- In Attendance:** Councillors I Gilbert, C Mulroney, K Robinson, M Terry and R Woodley (Cabinet Members), Councillors M Borton, K Evans, M Flewitt, N Folkard, M Kelly and C Willis, A Griffin, A Lewis, J Williams, E Cook, R Harris, T Row, A Smyth and S Tautz
- Start/End Time:** 6.00 - 8.05 pm

#### **179 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

#### **180 Declarations of Interest**

The following councillors declared interests as indicated:

- (a) Councillors I Gilbert, C Mulroney, K Robinson, M Terry and R Woodley (Cabinet Members) - Interest in the referred item (Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)); attended pursuant to the dispensation agreed at Council on 19 July 2012, under S.33 of the Localism Act 2011;
- (b) Cllr D Burzotta - Minute 182 (Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)); Family has business interests in the Borough - Non-pecuniary interest;
- (c) Cllr D Garston - Minute 182 (Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)); Has business interests in South Essex - Non-pecuniary interest;
- (d) Cllr D Nelson - Minute 182 (Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)); Family has business interests in the Borough - Non-pecuniary interest;
- (e) Cllr S Wakefield - Minute 182 (Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)); Has business interests in the Borough - Non-pecuniary interest.

#### **181 Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public relating to the responsibilities of the Committee.

#### **182 Report from the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA)**

The Committee considered Minute 178 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 22 July 2020, which had been referred directly to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, together

with a report of the Chief Executive that presented an update on the work of the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA) following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Council in 2018, to work collectively with other local authorities in South Essex to progress the economic agenda for the region.

In response to a question concerning the cost of the review of current and potential future governance arrangements for South Essex that had been commissioned by ASELA, the Chief Executive agreed to circulate details to the Committee after the meeting.

Resolved:

1. That the decision of the Cabinet set out in Minute 178 of its meeting held on 22 July 2020, be referred back to the Cabinet for reconsideration.
2. That this matter be referred to full Council for consideration in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 39.

Note: This is an Executive Function (any future significant decisions regarding governance/joint working would constitute a Council function).

Cabinet Member: Cllr I Gilbert

**Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_