

SPECIAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of South Norfolk District Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Monday 11 November 2019 at 11.10 am

Members Present:	Councillors: Minshull (Chairman), Bills, Brown, Clifford-Jackson, Dearnley, Dewsbury, Duffin, Easter, Elliott, Ellis, Fuller, Halls, Hornby, Hudson, Kiddie, Laidlaw, Mason Billig, Neal, Overton, R Savage, Spruce, Thomas, Thomson, J Wilby, M Wilby and Worley
Apologies:	Councillors: Amis, Bendle, Bernard, Blundell, Burrill, Curson, Edney, Elmer, Francis, Glover, Hardy, Holden, Hurn, W Kemp, Knight, Legg, Nuri, Ridley, Rowe and J Savage
Officers in Attendance:	The Managing Director (T Holden), the Director of Place (J Sutterby), the Director of Resources (D Lorimer), the Assistant Director, Governance and Business Support (E Hodds) and the Chief of Staff (H Ralph)

3518 NORFOLK BUSINESS RATES POOL

Members noted that due to timing issues, the Director of Resources had, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, agreed in principle that the Council would participate in the 2020/21 Norfolk Business Rate Pool, subject to ratification by Council.

Cllr J Fuller explained the background to the report and members noted that the Council had been a member of the Norfolk Rates Pool since its inception. By 2018/19 the pool had included all seven districts in Norfolk, in addition to Norfolk County Council.

Cllr Fuller drew attention to the pending NHS Business Rates challenge, and the risks associated with a favourable outcome for the NHS. Members noted that a report was presented to the Norfolk Leaders Group, which advised that the pool for 2020/21 should exclude South Norfolk Council. However, although reluctant to overrule the advice of Section 151 officers, Leaders decided that South Norfolk should continue to be invited to pool, and that the likelihood of the NHS winning the challenge, and the Government not stepping in to mitigate the impact, was low.

The portfolio holder, Cllr A Thomas, thanked officers for a comprehensive report, and expressed her support for the recommendations.

It was then unanimously

RESOLVED: To ratify the decision for South Norfolk Council to participate in the Norfolk Business Rates Pool for 2020/21.

3519 ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

Cllr Fuller referred members to the request from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to formally adopt the working definition of antisemitism.

Cllr Fuller proposed that the Council endorsed the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working Definition of Antisemitism, and stressed the need to treat all races, creeds and colours equally.

Seconding Cllr Fuller's proposal, Cllr V Clifford Jackson expressed her support for the definition's formal adoption.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (HRA) working definition of antisemitism.

(The meeting concluded at 11.17 am)

Chairman