



Minutes of the Executive Committee

29th April 2020

Venue: Virtual Private Meeting of the Executive

SDCT Website: www.cipfa.org/partners/society-of-district-council-treasurers

In Attendance: Simone Hines (President), Mark Dickenson (VP), Angela George (Secretary), Sal Khan, Peter Stuart, Terry Collier, David Stanley, Paul Deal, Alison Scott, Ka Ng, Alan Peach, Steve Hearse, Simon Freeman, Helen Smith, Clare Fletcher, Adrian Rowbotham, Jenny Poole, Homira Javadi, Peter Catchpole.

Also: Nicola Morton (LGA)

1. **Apologies:** None (although some technical problems encountered for some participants)

2. **Minutes of Previous Meetings and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting of 13th March were agreed. Any matters arising are either considered further below or are on the agenda:

2.1 **PWLB Consultation response**

SDCT will be submitting a response to the PWLB Consultation. This was due to close on 4th June but is now likely to be extended.

Action – Paul Deal

2.2 **Commerciality PAC Inquiry**

SDCT will be submitting a response to the PAC Call for evidence into Local Authority Commercial Investment Response – closing date 6th May.

Action - Adrian Rowbotham

3. **Update on COVID-19**

Simone updated Executive on the key issues from her regular meetings with MHCLG / LGA / ALATS etc.

It was considered that the best way to communicate this information to the wider membership was via an e mail bulletin to all District Council CFO's.

NOTE: This bulletin was issued on 1st May and is on the SDCT Website.

4. **Accounts and Audit Issues**

It was noted that preparation of the Statement of Accounts would not be 'simplified' and would continue on the basis of the previously published Code albeit without the implementation of IFRS16 relating to leases which has been pushed back to April 2021, and with the timetable for completion pushed back to 31st August for the draft Accounts and 30th November for audited accounts.

It was noted that we are awaiting confirmation from CIPFA / LASAAC on the SDCT nomination.

5. Any Other Business:

5.1 LGA Update:

Nicola Morton gave a brief update on LGA work not previously covered on the agenda. In particular she reported that HM Treasury have confirmed that they are going to go ahead with their review of the [Green book](#), the government guidance on how to appraise and evaluate policies, projects and programmes. They will report the outcome of the review alongside the Comprehensive Spending Review in the autumn. The focus of the review will be the Government's policy objective of "levelling up".

HMT recognise that "resources and attention" are rightly being directed elsewhere right now, and they are being flexible in taking comments. They have set up a stakeholder group to aid the review and LGA will be a member of that – it is all being done virtually so it is not known how many others are in the group. It covers the whole public sector so it could be quite a large group.

The Green Book methodology is something that many in local government feel strongly about. If SDCT or any members are interested in the review, have views to feed in, or just want to know more, please get in touch with Bevis Ingram at the LGA to discuss. Documentations the LGA have so far can also be shared with anyone who is interested (it is mainly about the scope of the review).

5.2 Expression of Interest to join the Executive – Glen Hammons (East Northants)

This was agreed.

5.3 SDCT Distribution List

The Distribution list has now been updated and future updates would be administered by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

5.4 Linked In

A reminder for Executive members to join Linked In and send details to Peter for the SDCT Executive Linked In group.

Action -Peter Stuart

5.5 SDCT Second Vice President

There have been no nominations received to date

Action – All

5.6 SDCT Website

It was noted that the SDCT website has now been updated and is being updated regularly for members with COVID-19 updates.

5.7 CIPFA Conference

It was noted that the CIPFA Conference was likely to be rearranged from July, to 21st and 22nd October

6. Date of Next Meetings - It was agreed that a further meeting of the Executive would be useful given the current COVID-19 crisis and this was subsequently agreed as **10am on 15th May (virtual).**

The next scheduled meeting is **10am on 5th June 2020** (Virtual meeting to be organised)