

**Draft****Public Minutes of the meeting of Shareholder Committee held at Conference Room 1 - Herefordshire Council, Plough Lane Offices, Hereford, HR4 0LE on Thursday 24 April 2025 at 2.00 pm**

**Shareholder committee members physically present and voting:** Councillors: Jonathan Lester and Pete Stoddart

**Shareholder committee members in remote attendance:** None

*Shareholder members attending the meeting remotely, e.g. through video conferencing facilities, may not vote on any decisions taken.*

**Other members / representatives in attendance:** Liz Harvey (Group Leader for Independents for Herefordshire) in person  
Diana Toynbee (Group Leader for Green Party) in person  
David Hitchiner (Chair of Audit and Governance) in person

**Officers in attendance:** Ross Cook (Corporate Director Economy and Environment); Sean O'Conner (Head of Legal Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer); Rachael Sanders (Director of Finance); Audrey Clements (Chief Executive Hoople) in attendance for Hoople item; Samantha Gregory (clerk).

**14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from: Councillor Gandy and Councillor Biggs

Apologies were also received from non-committee members: Councillor Clare Davies

Apologies were received from officers: Tracey Sampson and Paul Walker

Quorum was discussed. It was noted that only two Shareholder Committee members were present. It was confirmed within the Terms of Reference of the Shareholder Committee there was the ability for the Leader to take decisions on behalf of the committee in cases of urgency. The minutes and decisions would reflect that they were taken by the Leader under the urgency provision under provision 3.3.36.2 of the constitution.

It was queried why the meeting was not quorate and what the grounds for urgency were. It was confirmed that a report within Part 2 of the agenda was urgent requiring amendment to directors and separation of functions.

It was noted that councillors Harvey and Hitchiner confirmed their objections to proceeding under the urgency provision at 3.3.36.2.

**15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**16. MINUTES**

**Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.**

**17. HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS**

**18. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None were received.

**19. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

None were received.

For the following three items on the agenda, the Chair proposed a vote that the meeting moved into a private session. This being due to the reports containing information relating to information relating to any individual (pursuant to paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972) and the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) pursuant to paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was resolved that:

- a) under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act paragraphs 1 and 3, and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**20. APPOINTMENTS OF DIRECTORS TO HOOPLE LTD AND CYBER QUARTER LTD**

It was resolved that:

- a) under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**21. CYBER QUARTER LTD UPDATE APRIL 2025**

It was resolved that:

- a) under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**22. HOOPLE LTD UPDATE APRIL 2025**

It was resolved that:

**a) under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.**

The meeting ended at 14:07

**Chairperson**

