SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 28th September, 2023

CONTACT OFFICER: Shabana Kauser

(For all enquiries) Principal Democratic Services Officer

07821 811 259

WARD(S): All

PART I FOR DECISION

MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14

The following motions have been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

Learning from the recent past years at Slough Borough Council

(Moved by Councillor Mohindra, seconded by Councillor Manku)

"This Council acknowledges:

- The good progress made by the Council thus far in dealing with the significant challenges brought about by the financial catastrophe at the Council, and thanks officers for their hard work to date.
- That the residents of Slough expect answers as to how SBC got into this mess; and guidance on how it ensures this never happens again.

Council therefore resolves to ask its Monitoring Officer:

- to report on all SBC property transactions between 2018-2021 and to arrange for an all-member workshop facilitated by the Local Government Association to review the effects of these property transactions on SBC's financial position and consider any lessons to be learnt.
- to report to Cabinet whether any matter examined under this review should be referred to the police for criminal investigation."

Proposed reorganisation of Thames Valley Police

(Moved by Councillor Qaseem, seconded by Councillor Mohammad)

"Council Commends:

- That excellent work is undertaken by hard-working police officers across the town to best serve the needs of the Slough community.
- That strong partnership work with the police is evident in Slough, and the town benefits from an area based policing approach.
- That a local, strong, neighbourhood based policing approach, deeply rooted within the communities that the police serve, is essential to build trust with the police and enable residents to feel safe in our town.
- That resident's value having a front of house and highly visible police station within the town.

 That despite the efforts of our local police partners, Slough continues to have a 45% higher crime rate than the average across the Thames Valley and Thames Valley as a whole continues to have high race disproportionality rates in relation to stop and search and arrests data.

The council notes the proposed reorganisation of Thames Valley Police into 5 new command areas, placing Slough within Berkshire East, alongside Bracknell and Windsor & Maidenhead. Whilst we understand the need to move to a different organisational model, it is vital that the unique needs of Slough, the higher demand within Slough and our residents continue to be best served by the police.

As such, the council resolves to:

- a) Vigorously oppose any loss of a front of house, centrally located police building within the town.
- b) Lobby the Police and crime commissioners for the restoration of Police Community Support Officers across the town back up to 27.
- c) Constructively challenge Thames Valley police force to increase recruitment from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities at all levels of Thames Valley, ensuring that the police service adequately reflects the communities it serves. Ensure that these efforts are included within the annual report to the council.
- d) Ensure that tackling the blight of drug use, and the associated criminality that accompanies it is at the forefront of Slough's policing plan.
- e) Work with police partners to ensure an increase in mandatory, high visible patrols in key retail centres across the town."