

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF CABINET

Any matters within the minutes of the Cabinet's meetings, and not otherwise brought to the Council's attention in the Cabinet's report, may be the subject of questions and statements by Members upon notice being given to the Democratic Services Lead Manager by 12 noon on Monday 16 July 2012.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET
HELD ON TUESDAY 29 MAY 2012 AT 2.00PM
AT COUNTY HALL**

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Cabinet at its next meeting.

Members:

*Mr David Hodge (Chairman)	
*Mrs Mary Angell	Mrs Kay Hammond
*Mrs Helyn Clack (arrived 2.45pm)	*Ms Denise Le Gal
*Mr John Furey	*Mr Peter Martin
*Mr Michael Gosling	*Mr Tony Samuels

* = Present

PART ONE
IN PUBLIC

70/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)

There were none.

71/12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 24 April 2012 (Item 2)

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

72/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were none.

73/12 PROCEDURAL MATTERS (Item 4)

Members' Questions.

One question had been received from Mrs Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills). The question and agreed response is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Mrs Watson asked a supplementary question: Why was the Authority pursuing and not abandoning the proposals for Community Partnered Libraries.

The Leader responded by stating that he believed it was an excellent policy which would give local people the opportunity to run the service and he hoped that the localism agenda would be supported by the Liberal Democrats.

The Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games stressed the importance of ensuring that as many people as possible could access the library services and cited the success of the new Dorking Library and the current refurbishment of Woking Library.

74/12 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND ANY OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL (Item 5)

None

75/12 YEAR END FINANCIAL POSITION 2011 - 2012 (Item 6)

The Leader introduced the report and highlighted the following points:

- The second year of a tough financial settlement for Local Government had been completed.
- The target of £59.3m of on-going annual savings in 2011/12 financial year had been achieved, through Members, officers and Surrey County Council's partners working as One Team.
- Funding to provide on-going services and projects in 2012/13 financial year had been secured.
- Overall the budget had underspent by £4.5m (0.3% of the total revenue budget) – achieved by consistent financial management by both Cabinet Members and Strategic Directors.
- Through an innovative partnership with Hampshire County Council, the specification and scope of the schools' building programme had been reviewed and procurement processes improved, resulting in real savings of £3.7m.
- To ensure the Council's investment in its services continued, £27.8m of the 2011/12 budget was being made available in 2012/13.
- The Council's general balances currently stood at £28.8m and the level of reserves had improved.
- During the last 12 months, gross debt had been reduced by £3.6m and overdue debt by £1.6m.
- Public Value Reviews were at the centre of the Council's delivery of high quality services.
- Finally, there was typo to correct in recommendation (4) – capital budgets should read £18.8m not £18.7m.

Other Cabinet Members were invited to comment on their portfolio's budgets, starting with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families who referred to her tabled response to the Children and Families Select Committee's recommendations (Appendix 2). She also referred to the huge pressures on the Children, Schools and Families Budget, due in part to the increased numbers of Looked After Children.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health thanked the Adult Social Care team for their achievements. He said that £28m savings had been made this year (and £34m in the previous year). With a further £100m to be saved over the next 5 years, it would be necessary to reconfigure the services to ensure that the service could manage the increased numbers of elderly residents requiring help.

The Deputy Leader considered that the County Council was 'on track' and in a good position for the next financial year. He commended all Directorates for meeting or bettering their targets.

The Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games welcomed the additional Registration income and hoped that its current Public Value Review would produce further income generation. She also urged all Members to spend their allocations prudently for the benefit of their local communities.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety was pleased with the carry forward of funding for road safety schemes.

The Cabinet Member for Change and Efficiency highlighted the £3.2m underspend in her portfolio's budget and said that planned efficiencies had been achieved and exceeded. Savings had been made in procurement, IMT, HR, Finance and Shared Services.

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment said that the new Highways contract had been a turning point for the service. It was working well and a 5 year rolling programme was being introduced. He also said that large part of the underspend in the budget was due to restructuring and staff vacancies.

Finally, the Leader said that he was pleased with the substantial progress made over the last year but said that the council must not be complacent. He drew attention to Annex D, Transparent Information on Members Allowances and Travel Expenses (2011/12 and 2010/11), a Summary of Members' 2011/12 committee attendance and complaints, and the Council's overall travel expenses (2011/12 and 2010/11). He said that this was not the final version of this information. All Members would have the opportunity to clarify their details and a report would be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee in June, which if approved, would form part of the Council's Annual Report, due to be published in July.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the revenue and capital outturn, revenue efficiencies, reserves and balances positions and treasury information; as set out in Annex A of the submitted report be noted.
- (2) That the write off of care and non-care related debt as set out in paragraph 80 of the submitted report be noted.
- (3) That government grant changes are reflected in directorate budgets; as set out in Annex B of the submitted report be confirmed.
- (4) That the further support to the 2012/13 revenue (£0.3m) and capital (£18.8m) budgets from lower spending in 2011/12, as set out in Annex C of the submitted report, be approved.
- (5) That the publication of additional information on Members, in line with the Council's wish to increase transparency, as set out in Annex D of the submitted report, be approved.

Reason for decisions:

The recommendations assure adherence to the authority's financial governance requirements. The County Council's financial regulation require the aggregate outturn for the County Council's services to be reported to Cabinet, with proposals made for the carry forwards of service underspending and overspendings.

76/12 ONE COUNTY ONE TEAM: PEOPLE STRATEGY 2011 – 2017 (Item 7)

The Cabinet Member for Change and Efficiency presented the report and said that the formulation of the People Strategy had been driven by the desire of residents to create the best workforce for the Surrey people. The Strategy set out both the County Council and the Employee Promise.

RESOLVED:

That the One Council, One Team, People Strategy 2012-17, attached as Annex 1 to the submitted report, be approved.

Reasons for decisions:

Approving the *One Council One Team, People Strategy 2012 – 17* will ensure all employees have the skills, competence, and capacity to deliver professional services to Surrey residents and service users.

The *People Strategy* will support and enable a culture we can be proud of and on which residents can rely for best possible service.

77/12 SURREY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2011 - 2012 (Item 8)

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health said that he was pleased to present the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2011 – 12. He said that it was a factual document on a serious matter and that whilst the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board was currently non-statutory, it was likely to become statutory in the coming months and if so, the responsibilities would mirror those of the Safeguarding Children's Boards that were already statutory.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Families made three points: (i) concern about the large number of agencies and organisations represented on the Board, (ii) the prevention strategy and the thresholds around the 10 priorities, and (iii) a request for more information on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the Mental Health Act.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health addressed the points in order: (i) he noted her point but said that Surrey was a large county and it was important that the Board was representative of the whole county, (ii) he believed that the thresholds were correct but would be agreeable to further discussion outside the meeting, and (iii) he would respond in writing.

Points made by other Cabinet Members included:

- That the membership of the Board could be reviewed after one year.
- That the Board was multi-agency and the County Council could not dictate its membership.
- If the Board became statutory, there should be more elected Members on it.

Finally, the Leader considered that it was an excellent and helpful report, which would be available in every Surrey library and on the council's website.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report from the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board and the actions in the Strategic Plan 2012-2015 that are within the Plan be noted.

That each Surrey library have paper copies of the Annual Report available for members of the public.

Reasons for decisions:

It is recommended that the Annual Report is noted. This will provide evidence the council has fulfilled its obligations to co-ordinate the activities of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

It is recommended that paper copies are available in each of Surrey's libraries to ensure that members of the public who do not have internet access, are able to read and have a copy of the report.

78/12 PROPOSED CHANGES TO SERVICES IN BUS REVIEW PHASE 3 AREAS (Item 9)

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment explained the background to the Bus Review and the savings achieved to date, which stemmed from the Cabinet decision of 2 March 2010 where it was agreed that the public bus network was progressively reviewed to meet the Environment and Infrastructure Directorate's savings targets. He confirmed that a full e-tender process, compliant with the European Public Procurement Regulations had been completed.

He referred to the Annexes, in particular Annex C which set out the guide to revised bus services from September 2012 in Epsom and Ewell, Mole Valley District, Waverley Borough and part of Guildford Borough. He also highlighted the areas that had generated the most responses in the consultation process – these were set out in paragraph 27 of the report.

Cabinet Members had also received a letter from the Leader of Chichester District Council expressing her concern about the proposed discontinuation of the number 70 bus service from Guildford to Midhurst. Also, Stagecoach had come back to the County Council after the close of the consultation process and therefore, he was proposing that further consultation would take place and this was reflected in the revised recommendations tabled at the meeting, which also included the extension of the service 53 through to Ewhurst on Sundays with the proviso that it was reviewed after 12 months.

Mr Young, local Member for Cranleigh and Ewhurst addressed the meeting and expressed his support and thanks for the Sunday service to Ewhurst.

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment said that the use of concessionary bus passes was not addressed as part of this review but confirmed that the council would work with NHS partners re. the timing of hospital appointments.

Key points raised by other Cabinet Members included:

- Concern about the services Nos.70,71 and 92.
- Review the service between Witley and Haslemere.
- There should be further consultation in certain areas with the final decisions being made by the Cabinet Member and the Leader.
- The Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was detailed and several issues to be addressed were highlighted, including the Transport Coordination Centre. It also stated that the County Council subsidised socially necessary routes and it was important to emphasise this point.
- The huge amount of stakeholder engagement and the importance of continually reviewing and addressing the provision. The EIA also noted that Black and Minority Ethnic communities were not well represented in the consultation feedback but that members of the Forum were asked to contribute to this phase of the review as well as the other phases and there was no evidence that members of these communities would be more affected than others by the proposals.
- A welcome return of the Sunday bus service for Beare Green and the dependence on bus services in rural areas in Mole Valley to enable residents to get to work at Gatwick Airport.
- Support for the retention of Sunday bus services.
- A reference to the £12m bus subsidy in 2007 which was unsustainable.
- Savings achieved to date and recognition of the huge amount of work undertaken by the Travel and Transport team.

RESOLVED (as amended):

- (1) That the changes to supported public bus services and subsidy levels in Phase 3 areas on the basis described in the report be approved.
- (2) That the changes to bus services and service levels shown in Annex B and C on the basis of new subsidy levels in Annex D of the submitted report be confirmed but with further negotiations to be held with Stagecoach in order to address concerns over services 70 (Guildford-Midhurst), 71 (Guildford – Haslemere) and 92 (Guildford-Eashing

Lane/Aarons Hill Estates). The decision on these routes be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment in consultation with the Strategic Director of Environment and Infrastructure. Consultation with the public and Members within these areas will be undertaken. Also, a financial impact assessment will also be conducted and if there are any financial implications, the final decision will be made by the Leader.

- (3) That the optional additional services outlined in paragraph 27 - (a) to (d), together with the Sunday service through to Ewhurst be approved, with these services being reviewed after 12 months.
- (4) That the contracts as detailed in item 13, the confidential annex to this report, be approved.

Reasons for decisions:

To develop an overall network of public bus provision which is fit for purpose, more commercially viable and financially sustainable.

79/12 CONTRACT AWARD FOR A LOCAL CONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SURREY SMALL WORKS CONTRACTOR PANEL (Item 10)

The Cabinet Member for Change and Efficiency introduced the report and informed Members that this Local Area Construction Framework Agreement for recommended tenderers was a strategy to improve the County Council's existing building maintenance provision which in the past had not always delivered Value for Money. She also drew attention to the proposal for a Surrey Small Works Panel which would allow access to a wide range of Surrey based suppliers who would have the option to quote on at least six projects per annum.

Cabinet Members agreed that these proposals were an excellent example of joint working that would deliver better Value for Money for Surrey residents and at the same time putting more money into the local economy by supporting local suppliers.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That selected contractors be appointed onto a Local Area Construction Framework Lot 3, jointly procured with Hampshire County Council as detailed in the confidential annex (item 14). Further, that the authority to award individual contracts above £500k, in value, under this framework be delegated to the Strategic Director for Change and Efficiency in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Change and Efficiency.
- (2) That the strategy for the development of a Surrey Small Works Panel for all low value projects across construction, mechanical, electrical and roofing works, which will be launched in August 2012, be approved.

Reasons for decisions:

The Surrey and Hampshire Local Construction Framework was jointly established by Surrey County Council and Hampshire County Council, on behalf of themselves and other public sector and similar bodies in Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire and adjoining areas.

The overarching aim of the framework is the efficient delivery of small building projects and programmes of work up to £1.5m.

It is a multi-authority collaborative framework which is jointly managed on a not-for-profit basis by Surrey and Hampshire County Councils. The Framework will operate from 2012 to 2016.

The Surrey Small Works Panel is a list of Surrey based suppliers who will contract directly with SCC in the delivery of some 260 projects annually (between £7.5k and £75k), as well as being exposed to opportunities to participate in higher value projects at a subcontractor level. Contracting directly will avoid the overhead costs of a managing contractor.

80/12 LEADER/DEPUTY LEADER/CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING (Item 11)

The Leader drew attention to the revised Annex 1, tabled at the meeting, which included details of the Community Improvement Fund projects, approved at his individual decision making meeting on 24 May 2012. He also acknowledged the work undertaken both by officers and the Member panel to compile and consider the bids and said that a further round of bids would be considered later in the year.

That the decisions taken by the Cabinet Members since the last meeting be noted.

Reason for decision:

To note the decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated authority.

81/12 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC (Item 12)

RESOLVED: That, under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

P A R T T W O - I N P R I V A T E

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS WERE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE BY THE CABINET. HOWEVER THE INFORMATION SET OUT BELOW IS NOT CONFIDENTIAL.

**82/12 PROPOSED CHANGES TO SERVICES IN BUS REVIEW PHASE 3 AREAS
(Item 13)**

Confidential annex for item 9.

**83/12 CONTRACT AWARD FOR A LOCAL CONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK
AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SURREY SMALL WORKS CONTRACTOR
PANEL (Item 14)**

Confidential annex for item 10.

**84/12 PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – UNITS 1 AND 7 AC COURT, THAMES
DITTON – PART SURRENDER OF LEASE (Item 15)**

The Cabinet Member for Assets and the Regeneration Programmes urged the Cabinet to support the surrender of this unprofitable lease.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed surrender of the County Council's lease on the terms reported be approved and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to complete the necessary Deed of Surrender and Variation to reflect the reduced demise.

Reasons for decisions:

To ensure that the County Council minimises its costs in relation to historic leasing arrangements where property is surplus to requirement and enable the legal documentation to be completed.

85/12 PUBLICITY FOR PART 2 ITEMS (Item 16)

RESOLVED:

That information relating to the items considered in Part 2 of the agenda could be made available to the press and public at the appropriate time.

[The meeting closed at 3.20pm]

Chairman

RESPONSE TO QUESTION

Member Question

Question from Mrs Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills)

What are the expected financial savings in 2012/13 in the Library Service as a result of the Community Partnered Libraries proposals?

What are the expected annual savings as a result of the Community Partnered Libraries proposals?

What are the budgeted training costs per volunteer in the Community Partnered Libraries proposals at start up?

Given that New Haw Library Community Partnership have sent an open letter to the Chief Executive stating that they have 150 volunteers, what is the projected total training cost at start up for the whole programme of 10 Community Partnered Libraries?

What are the proposals for ensuring that all new volunteers in the future receive training before they start volunteering?

What are the budgeted costs of administering the register of volunteers to ensure they all receive training in line with the recent High Court judgment and what are the expected ongoing annual costs of training volunteers?

Reply:

There are no expected financial savings in 2012 – 2013 in the Library Service as a result of Community Partnered Libraries proposals and there are no expected annual savings as a result of the Community Partnered Libraries proposals.

No additional costs are being incurred by the service in the roll out and ongoing support for Community Partnered Libraries. The provision of the team to support Community Partnered Libraries (including the time to be spent at the CP Libraries, and providing training and on-going support etc) is being met from existing capacity and arrangements that already provides the managerial and administrative support to these libraries.

Support to the Community Partnered libraries in terms of training key volunteers has been carefully planned and is part of the Council's ongoing commitment of support from the library service. All training will be carried out by experienced staff and will be based on training that is already delivered to library staff, but adapted for the Community Partnered Libraries and volunteers. The costs of the Community Partnered Libraries support team per annum is £106,083 but, as stated above, this has been achieved by realignment of staff roles and is not an additional cost.

The support team will be present for 20% of opening hours per week. The role of the support team is to work with the community partnership in training and supporting their volunteers. Needs may change over time, from getting up and running, to moving on to more ambitious activities like running events and learning programmes,

and what the team provide will also change to meet the needs of each library at that time.

The agreement signed for each partnership between the community partner and Surrey County Council - and its associated performance monitoring and performance procedures - will ensure that all volunteers receive key training before they start volunteering and ongoing monitored and evaluated training and development. The community partner is responsible for its volunteers and will be keeping registers of volunteers and their training which will be regularly mutually checked and reviewed by the community partner in conjunction with the Community Partnered Libraries Support Team.

The Community Partnered Libraries support team will be meeting very regularly with the steering group for that library, to discuss how the library is progressing and identify how best the support team can help and will work closely with the senior volunteer organiser for each library to identify and deliver what support is needed. The team will also provide necessary updates as library procedures and services change.

The local organisations we are working with have shown a great deal of energy, passion and ideas for improving their local library, and for making greater community use of the library buildings outside of library opening hours. We believe they will be able to bring many benefits to their communities.

Helyn Clack
Cabinet Member for Community Services and 2012 Games
29 May 2012

CABINET RESPONSE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE

CONTACTS AND REFERRALS

Select Committee recommendations:

1. Additional finance should be released from the Directorate carry forward to enhance the proposed resource increase as outlined in Appendix I to the committee's report (and attached to this recommendation). Without an additional injection of approximately £1m per annum it will not be possible to maintain a safe service without further raising the eligibility criteria and thus redefining core business for children's social care. The impact of such action will be that partners who are already feeling vulnerable will have to manage even more risk themselves, without support or resource, and children may be at risk of harm.
2. The possibility of funding the essential increase in legal support for care proceedings from central budgets rather than the Children's Services budget be explored.
3. A whole systems approach is taken in developing an early help strategy and the health, well being and safeguarding plans and that the implementation of these plans promotes the adopting of a family approach that includes services for parents who would otherwise not necessarily be eligible for adult service provision e.g. mental health service or drug and alcohol advice services.
4. The service reviews and revises the Eligibility Criteria for children's social care - to include consultation with partners and ensure that the safeguarding 'system' owns this and supports the development of 'step down' and other targeted services for children, young people and their families in an effort to prevent the 'revolving door' syndrome.
5. The service develops partnership opportunities to manage and share risk. This would include exploring partnership options to manage referrals to children's social care and the safeguarding 'front door'.
6. Surrey Safeguarding Children Board provides scrutiny and challenge of the safeguarding system to ensure that service provision remains appropriate to meet need and ensure that children identified as likely to be at risk, are able, to be properly safeguarded.

Response:

1. I welcome the Children & Families Select Committee recommendations in relation to the 'Capacity and Demand Paper' presented by the Deputy Director for Children, Schools and Families on 24 April 2012. I am very supportive of the recommendations to increase capacity both within Children's Services and Legal Services. The financial outturn report for 2011/12 recommends that £1.2m per annum be funded from the current directorate carry forward for the next 3 years (total of £3.6m).
2. These recommendations are referenced in the Outturn report, as part of the

carry forward decision making.

3. I welcome the recommendation in relation to developing an early help strategy. The Directorate is currently commissioning 3 key change projects. One of these is focused on Early Help. This project will work across the directorate and with partners, council and county wide to agree a definition of early help, develop a Surrey strategy and a systematic approach to supporting children, young people and their families. This strategy will be used to support future commissioning of services based on need to improve safeguarding and future life chances of children and would thus include services that help to support parents to address their own challenges that impinge upon parenting ability such as domestic abuse, mental health and drug and alcohol misuse.
4. I welcome the recommendation in relation to reviewing and revising the Eligibility Criteria. The current Eligibility Criteria has been recently reviewed and revised. It is now being shared with partners through a range of workshops to ensure that there is collective understanding and acceptance of thresholds for intervention. This engagement and consultation is being supported by the SSCB.
5. I welcome the recommendation in relation to developing partnership opportunities to manage and share risk. The service is working in partnership with the police to look at the option of a 'shared front door' to manage contact and referrals into children's services. A co sponsored Rapid Improvement Event will take place the week commencing 25 June involving a range of stakeholders to progress this.
6. I welcome the recommendation in relation to the Surrey Safeguarding Children's Board. The SSCB provides the safeguarding governance across the partnership. It has endorsed and supported the work to date and will continue to have a monitoring and scrutiny role to ensure that children are adequately safeguarded.

Mary Angell
Cabinet Member for Children and Families
29 May 2012

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET
HELD ON TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2012 AT 2.00PM
AT COUNTY HALL**

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Cabinet at its next meeting.

Members:

*Mr David Hodge (Chairman)	*Mrs Kay Hammond
*Mrs Mary Angell	*Mrs Linda Kemeny
*Mrs Helyn Clack	*Ms Denise Le Gal
*Mr John Furey	*Mr Peter Martin
*Mr Michael Gosling	*Mr Tony Samuels

* = Present

PART ONE
IN PUBLIC

The Chairman welcomed the Leader and Cabinet Members from Buckinghamshire County Council who were attending as part of a visit to Surrey.

86/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)

There were none.

87/12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 29 May 2012 (Item 2)

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

88/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were none.

89/12 PROCEDURAL MATTERS (Item 4)

(a) Member Question.

One question had been received from Mrs Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills). The question and agreed response is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Mrs Watson put a supplementary question asking for details of a meeting at which decisions were made to change the prioritisation of flooding and drainage schemes. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment responded that there was no requirement to hold a meeting where a matter of safety was involved. The safety of residents and road users was the highest priority when assessing maintenance schemes. The Leader advised that the list of maintenance priorities would always be influenced by technical and safety advice from officers and police and was therefore

subject to change. He expressed his full support for the decision to prioritise and address safety issues of most concern.

(b) Public Question.

One question had been received from Mrs Jenny Meineck (resident of Epsom, Surrey). The question and agreed response is attached as **Appendix 2**.

90/12 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND ANY OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL (Item 5)

(a) Fatal Fire Death in Surrey

The Cabinet Members for Community Safety and Adult Social Care and Health drew attention to their tabled response.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety advised that she had requested a piece of work from a joint members reference group following the deaths of three people in fires earlier in the year. She welcomed the detailed recommendations and thanked the Select Committees for their work. It was noted that the issue of sprinklers had been in the media. The Cabinet Member agreed that it was important that robust procedures were in place locally to help protect the elderly, vulnerable and those with mobility issues and would continue to pursue the issue of incorporating sprinklers within developments with the national government.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health advised that the reporting lines for the Fire and Rescue Service would be via the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care during the Olympics. This opportunity to share knowledge and align responses would be utilised and further work would be ongoing.

The response to the Select Committees was agreed as attached as **Appendix 3 to these minutes**.

(b) Consultation on an Outcomes-based Commissioning Framework for Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Infrastructure in Surrey April 2013 – March 2016

The Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games drew attention to her tabled response and encouraged as many people as possible to respond to the consultation. The response to the Communities Select Committee was agreed as attached as **Appendix 4 to these minutes**.

(c) Community Right to Challenge

The Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games drew attention to her tabled response.

The Leader of the Council noted that it would be beneficial to have a consistent approach to the Community Right to Challenge across Surrey. Following the planned Member seminar, views would be collected from borough and district partners, potentially through the Surrey Leaders Group to encourage a consistent policy across the county.

The response to the Communities Select Committee was agreed as attached as **Appendix 5 to these minutes.**

(d) Highway Tree Maintenance

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment drew attention to his tabled response.

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment welcomed the recommendations and expressed his support for the local devolvement of areas of work. In the case of tree maintenance it was noted that there were issues which needed to be overcome first. The budget should continue to be held centrally with the services until there was clarity around issues such as safety and risk. Members who had local issues were encouraged to address them through their local committees.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety asked that schools be reminded of the need to ensure that safety audits had been carried out for the trees within their curtilage

The response to the Environment and Transport Select Committee was agreed as attached as **Appendix 6 to these minutes.**

91/12 BUDGET MONITORING FORECAST 2012/13 (PERIOD ENDING MAY 2012) (Item 6)

The Cabinet considered the first financial report of the new financial year. The May 2013 projection for the 2012/13 service revenue budget outturn showed that budgeted income and expenditure levels would be achieved. All services projected that budgets would be in balance at the year end and the savings required in the 2012-17 Medium Term Financial Plan would be achieved.

The Leader advised that officers would be asked to bring forward further capital initiatives that could boost economic growth and assist in terms of helping local business. The council aimed to spend 60% of its budget locally and it was especially important to make use of the funding available to support the local economy during challenging times.

The Cabinet welcomed the news that it was likely that the council would recover 100% of the deposits it had in two Icelandic banks which had gone into administration in October 2008. The return of the deposits would put the council in the position it would have been if they had matured as planned in October 2008. A provision had been set aside in 2009 against the risk that half of the funds were not recovered. This level of provision would be

reviewed and any changes would be reflected in the council's available reserves and balances.

Cabinet Members praised the speed and detail with which the budget monitoring report had been prepared. The additional level of detail around staffing costs, including vacancies and agency staff, and controls was welcomed in particular.

RESOLVED:

1. That the projected revenue budget, as set out in Annex A to the report, be noted.
2. That the direction of the Capital Programme, as set out in Annex B to the report, be noted and that officers be requested to propose capital business cases for initiatives that boost the Surrey economy during these challenging times.
3. That government grant changes, as set out in Annex C to the report, be reflected in directorate budgets.
4. That the in year virement of £817,900 from the Central HR Training Budget to most services that have service specific training budget allocations for 2012/13, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report, be approved.
5. That the updated 2012-2017 summary Medium Term Financial Plan, as set out in Annex D to the report, be confirmed

Reason for decisions:

To monitor budgets and implement the associated budget management actions.

92/12 2011/12 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (Item 7)

Surrey County Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for. The Annual Governance Statement outlines the council's governance arrangements and achievements during 2011/12 and highlights areas to continue to strengthen governance, quality and internal control in 2012/13. The annual review of the Council's governance framework is a statutory requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011.

Mr Nick Harrison, Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee, addressed the Cabinet on the contents of the Annual Governance Statement and outstanding areas of risk. Mr Harrison noted that the Statement was the most positive he had seen in his three years as Chairman and advised that the Audit and Governance Committee would monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. That the 2011/12 Annual Governance Statement (as set out in Annex 1 to the report) be approved and the Leader and the Chief Executive be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement ready for publication with the Statement of Accounts.
2. That the Audit & Governance Committee monitor progress on the implementation of the actions required and reports to Cabinet as appropriate.

Reasons for decisions:

There is a statutory duty to annually review and report on governance. The identification of issues in governance and internal control and a responsive approach to addressing those issues is viewed as best practice.

93/12 PUBLIC VALUE REVIEW OF SURREY REGISTRATION AND NATIONALITY SERVICE (Item 8)

The Surrey Registration and Nationality Service is a high performing service which achieves consistently high standards of customer service and satisfaction. The service in Surrey registers high numbers of births and deaths and generates significant levels of income from weddings, civil partnership and citizenship ceremonies.

The Cabinet considered a report and related action plan arising from the Public Value Review of the Registration and Nationality Service. The Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games outlined proposals for further improvements to create an even more successful service. The Registration and Nationality Service had already improved links with other services, for example in reducing the burden on relatives when reporting deaths, and would look to invest in technology and improve access to its services (eg buildings and accessibility).

The proposals aimed to ensure that the right services could be provided in the right places and atmosphere to meet people's requirements. Surrey has some special locations for holding weddings and civil partnerships and the promotion and improvement of these could bring a significant boost to the local economy. Citizenship ceremonies were currently held at County Hall and in Weybridge and it had been suggested that other locations be looked at for possible future use. These buildings would be examined on a case by case basis however it was very important that any location was fitting and matched the special characteristic of the occasion.

The differences in birth and death rates in Surrey and neighbouring counties were noted. Whilst the benchmarking figures reflected well on the service provided in Surrey, there were concerns that the figures might point towards a rising population trend which the council was not being sufficiently funded for.

The Cabinet Member for Community Safety noted that the Equalities Impact Assessment had been thorough and that the points raised had been

addressed. Further work would take place to address concerns about any potential impacts on staff.

The Leader thanked Tracy Waters for the tremendous amount of work which she had carried out across the Public Value Reviews and Peter Milton for his commitment to improving services to residents.

RESOLVED:

1. That it be noted that the Surrey Registration Service is a high performing service, held in high regard by people who use it and which generates significant income.
2. That the recommendations from the report, as set out below, be approved:
 - To promote Surrey as a destination for weddings and civil partnership ceremonies.
 - To prioritise the identification and investment in replacement software to support the administration and scheduling of weddings and civil partnerships.
 - To reorganise the Nationality Checking Service to integrate it with the main registration service to reduce costs and increase income.
3. That the service's budget be reduced by £141,000 in 2013/14, to reflect the savings and income identified within the agreed recommendations, as a contribution towards Cultural Services' £300,000 income efficiency target for 2013/14.
4. That the recommendations set out in the action plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report be agreed and implementation of the action plan, led by the Head of Cultural Services, begin immediately.

Reasons for decisions:

To implement the Registration and Nationality Service PVR to enable the service to develop in line with the council's priorities and deliver improved outcomes and value for money for the residents of Surrey.

94/12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN REPORT WITH A FINDING OF MALADMINISTRATION (Item 9)

The Cabinet considered a report by the Council's Monitoring Officer in line with the statutory requirement under Section 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The report concerned the Local Government Ombudsman's findings in response to a complaint concerning a child's statement of special educational needs. The complaint was brought against both the London Borough of Lambeth as the child's home authority and against Surrey County Council, because the child moved into foster care in Surrey.

The Cabinet considered the Ombudsman's report and the response of the service involved. The Cabinet Member for Children and Families noted that

the report was fair and that the recommendations had been accepted. A breakdown in communications had occurred in relation to this case and it was right in the circumstances that an apology be issued.

RESOLVED:

1. The Ombudsman's report be noted.
2. The response from the Children's Service, attached as Addendum 1 to the report, be noted and the actions set out below be agreed to address the findings of the Ombudsman's Report:
 - i). that the Cabinet acknowledges with regret that maladministration has occurred in this matter;
 - ii). that an award of £900, as agreed with the Ombudsman as payment to the family, be agreed as an appropriate amount as payment to the family; and
 - iii). that an apology be sent to the child's father and to the Foster Carer setting out the improvements to processes identified in the service response, to avoid this scenario arising in any future case.
3. The Strategic Director for Children Schools and Families, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, be authorised to produce a response to this report and to the Ombudsman's report and ensure that this is sent to all Members and to the Ombudsman.

Reasons for decisions:

To comply with the statutory requirement to respond to an Ombudsman report and ensure that processes have been put in place to ensure this scenario does not arise again in the future.

95/12 LEADER/DEPUTY LEADER/CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING (Item 10)

The Leader drew attention to the revised Annex 1, tabled at the meeting, which included details of the decisions taken by the Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration Programmes and the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning on 12 and 13 June 2012.

RESOLVED that the decisions taken by the Cabinet Members since the last meeting, as set out in **Appendix 7 to these Minutes**, be noted.

Reason for decision:

To note the decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated authority.

[The meeting closed at 2.48pm]

Chairman

RESPONSE TO QUESTION

Member Question

Question from Mrs Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills)

At the March meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee the following table of Flooding and Drainage schemes was reported by officers:

FLOODING AND DRAINAGE SCHEMES		
Project	Location	Division
A25 Guildford Road	Abinger	Dorking Hills
A24 Deepdene Roundabout	Deepdene	Dorking & the Holmwoods/Dorking Hills

At the June meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee the following table appeared:

FLOODING AND DRAINAGE SCHEMES		
Project	Location	Update
A25 Guildford Road	Abinger	To be programmed
A24 Deepdene Roundabout	Deepdene	Investigation only.
A246 Dorking Road/Broderick Road	Bookham	To be programmed
Anstie Lane	Coldharbour	Investigation only.
A24 By-pass near Fortyfoot Road	Leatherhead	Design only.

In the intervening weeks the works on the Deepdene Roundabout had slipped to "Investigation only" and two other schemes, in Clare Curran and Tim Hall's divisions, had appeared. The only explanation given was that this had been "decided centrally".

Please could you inform me at what meeting of the Cabinet or at what Cabinet Member Decision Making meeting these changes were decided, and refer me to the appropriate agenda item and minute?

If, as I believe no such agenda item or minute exists, and as the items on the Mole Valley Local Committee agendas were "to note the report for information", please can you inform me at what point there is any decision making on these important local items where a local member can give proper input into decisions either at a Cabinet Member Decision Making meeting, here at Cabinet or at Local Committee as a decision making item?

Reply:

The priority for works to resolve flooding issues is determined using factors such as vehicle collisions, property flooding, the impact on the free passage of traffic and level of public concern. Data relating to such factors is collated on a database and scored so that the most urgent sites are addressed first. The database is a "live" document and is constantly updated to reflect any change of circumstance.

It had originally been intended that Deepdene Roundabout would receive funding for construction during the current financial year (2012/13). Since that time, circumstances at another site at East Grinstead Road, Lingfield have changed considerably following a series of traffic accidents involving vehicles leaving the road during wet conditions. The matter had reached the attention of Surrey Police and local concern had prompted the Surrey Mirror to investigate. The Council's Road

Safety Team had also become involved after the matter had been raised at the Accident Working Group.

East Grinstead Road had featured on the Council's list for investigation but, following recent developments, its score was raised to a level where it became an absolute priority. In response it received immediate attention and, despite it being brought to the attention of the Highways and Drainage Team in December 2011, works on site are substantially complete.

Sadly, bringing East Grinstead Road forward displaced Deepdene Avenue from this year's list of sites for construction. However, it is on the list for investigation this year and at the top of the list for implementation next year. Of course, should it transpire that any of the schemes planned for this year cannot be built, Deepdene Avenue will be brought forward for construction.

John Furey
Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
19 June 2012

RESPONSE TO QUESTION

Public Question

Question from Mrs Jenny Meineck (resident of Epsom, Surrey)

4(b) Public Questions

Question from Mrs Jenny Meineck, Epsom, Surrey:

Regarding the Community Partnership Library (CPL) recent Questionnaire exercise, can you answer the following:

- (i) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent out in the first round to each of the 10 libraries? Please provide breakdown by a. adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member.
- (ii) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent out in the second round to each of the 10 libraries? Please provide breakdown by a. adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member.
- (iii) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent to recognised groups representing those with 'protected characteristics'?
- (iii) How many responses have been returned by each library? Please provide breakdown per library by a. Adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member
- (iv) How will the results be audited?
- (v) When and where will the results be published?

Reply:

My response to the question is set out below. It should be noted that the consultation is still ongoing however, in the spirit of cooperation, the information so far is provided.

Part (i) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent out in the first round to each of the 10 libraries? Please provide breakdown by a. adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member.

Survey Volumes sent for each Library in First Mailing:

Library	Adult	Parent/ Guardian
Bagshot	757	220
Bramley	1,134	331
Byfleet	1,260	399
Ewell Court	1,157	412
Lingfield	855	223
New Haw	1,411	376
Stoneleigh	1,797	530
Tattenhams	2,088	568
Virginia Water	789	220
Warlingham	1,436	400
Totals	12,684	3,679

A pack of 15 surveys was sent to the Chair of each Steering Group for distribution amongst the Steering Group.

Part (ii) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent out in the second round to each of the 10 libraries? Please provide breakdown by a. adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member.

Survey Volumes sent for each Library in Second Mailing:

Library	Adult
Bagshot	703
Bramley	1,061
Byfleet	1,179
Ewell Court	1,084
Lingfield	825
New Haw	1,287
Stoneleigh	1,662
Tattenhams	1,897
Virginia Water	727
Warlingham	1,289
Totals	11,714

There was no second mailing for the Parent/Guardian or Steering Group Member surveys.

Part (iii) How many surveys/questionnaires were sent to recognised groups representing those with 'protected characteristics'?

Survey volumes sent to recognised groups representing those with protected characteristics: 36 groups.

Part (iv) How many responses have been returned by each library? Please provide break down per library by a. Adult user b. child user c. Steering Group member

Survey Volumes as of 12 June 2012:

Library	Adult	Parent/ Guardian	Steering Group
Bagshot	142	N/A	1
Bramley	233	N/A	0
Byfleet	240	N/A	1
Ewell Court	232	N/A	0
Lingfield	189	N/A	0
New Haw	290	N/A	3
Stoneleigh	315	N/A	0
Tattenhams	400	N/A	1
Virginia Water	150	N/A	0
Warlingham	271	N/A	0

Totals	2462	65	6
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N/A – Parent/Guardian survey did not require a library to be identified.

Part (v) How will the results be audited?

Databases were constructed for the dispatch and recording of returns of all questionnaires. Questionnaires and monitoring forms were returned in the supplied prepaid envelope and separated upon opening. Questionnaires from different categories of respondents (adult, parent/guardian, steering group, equality groups) were identified. Those responding to both mail outs were identified and amalgamated into one response.

Part (vi) When and where will the results be published?

The findings will be included in the report to Cabinet on 24 July 2012 (and will be made available on the Libraries website www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries).

Helyn Clack
Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games
19 June 2012

CABINET RESPONSE TO ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

FATAL FIRE DEATHS IN SURREY

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Select Committees submitted the following recommendations to Cabinet:

- a) Surrey Fire & Rescue Service to develop, in conjunction with Adult Social Care, an Older Person's Strategy and a sprinkler threshold strategy to meet the needs of the rising older person's population.
- b) Relevant staff within Surrey Fire & Rescue Service to have access to Adult Social Care IT systems in order to obtain timely information and to manage the flow of information in relation to an adult at risk.
- c) Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Adult Social Care to develop a marketing strategy, proposed as being 'Surrey Cares' that includes the development of a partnership agreement for staff of care providers.
- d) To relaunch the working practices and services supplied under the Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Adult Social Care Memorandum of Understanding to increase the fire protection of vulnerable adults living in the community.
- e) To develop strong links between Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Surrey Care Association.
- f) Increase the numbers of vulnerable older people having fire alarms linked into their telecare packages.
- g) To ask government to develop a national policy on fire fatalities in regards to planning for older vulnerable members of the community.
- h) To preface the report by marking the distress the incidents that led to this report caused the loved ones of the victims. To take the learning from the report to make the lives of the Surrey residents safer.
- i) The Committee recognises the work that the officers have undertaken and celebrates the improved partnership between Surrey Fire and Rescue and Adult Social Services.
- j) The Committee recommends that the branding and marketing strategy for the Surrey Safe initiative be widened to engage with Local Area Committees, District and Borough Councils and the commercial sector.
- k) That Surrey Fire and Rescue and Surrey County Council Adult Social Care investigate and where possible put in place arrangements for Surrey County Council's contract beds provided by Anchor and Care UK Homes to be fitted with sprinkler systems.

RESPONSE

We welcome the recommendations made jointly by the Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Communities Select Committee which we accept.

In agreeing the recommendations we would like to formally acknowledge those vulnerable people who have tragically lost their lives as a result of a house fire and to acknowledge the distress that these incidents have caused to their loved ones.

The recommendations that have arisen from these tragic events will demonstrate that we, as the Leadership in Surrey have taken these deaths seriously and that we are doing everything possible to ensure that as the older people's population in Surrey increases, that this is not accompanied by a corresponding increase in such tragic incidents and that the lives of Surrey residents are made safer.

The recommendations recognise the work that officers have undertaken and celebrate the improved partnership between Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Adult Social Care. There is a need however for the work that we now undertake to be widened to engage with Local Area Committees, District and Borough Councils and the commercial sector.

There is already a robust working partnership between Adult Social Care and Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and the recommendations that have been made will enhance that relationship whilst being inclusive of wider partnership arrangements, in particular with the District and Borough Councils and the Surrey Care Association.

To take the recommendations forward a working group has been set up that includes staff from Surrey Fire and Rescue, Adult Social Care, Surrey Care Association and the District and Borough Councils.

The group will consider the recommendations and produce a work plan that will address each recommendation setting a timescale for completion

Our comments in relation to the specific recommendations are:

- a) *Surrey Fire & Rescue Service to develop, in conjunction with Adult Social Care, an Older Person's Strategy and a sprinkler threshold strategy to meet the needs of the rising older person's population.*

An older person's strategy will be agreed that will identify the high risk matrix group of vulnerable people, this is people over the age of 60 who live alone, may have dementia or mental health problems, may be dependent on drugs or alcohol. The strategy will identify actions that will be undertaken in terms of providing additional safeguards to this group of people including an agreement of thresholds for the use of a domestic sprinkler and also fire retardant bedding as well as enhanced telecare.

- b) *Relevant staff within Surrey Fire & Rescue Service to have access to Adult Social Care IT systems in order to obtain timely information and to manage the flow of information in relation to an adult at risk.*

It is recognised that to improve the flow and exchange of information between SFRS and Adult Social Care that identified SFRS staff will have access to Adult Social Care IT systems. This will be implemented as a priority and training will

be given.

- c) *Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Adult Social Care to develop a marketing strategy, proposed as being 'Surrey Cares' that includes the development of a partnership agreement for staff of care providers.*

We welcome this recommendation in that a meaningful partnership agreement will be agreed that would be inclusive of the relevant organisations in Surrey both within the public and private sector. The joint working group will look at the development of a system involving the signing of agreements between care providers and SFRS on the referral of adults at risk and the supply of fire safety guidance to care provider's staff. This will also allow for the high profile marketing of partnership working and the services and protection that will be provided to people at risk in Surrey.

- d) *To relaunch the working practices and services supplied under the Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Adult Social Care Memorandum of Understanding to increase the fire protection of vulnerable adults living in the community.*

There has been a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Adult Social Care and SFRS since 2008. This was revised in 2010 to enable learning from a Serious Case Review to be included within the MOU and was at that time widened as a MOU between SFRS and the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board, thus including all partner agencies who are members of the Board. The MOU enables a reporting process between agencies and SFRS in relation to referring for a Home Fire Safety Visit. This will be reviewed to ensure that it reflects any additional working practices such as a person reaching the threshold for a domestic sprinkler system, telecare that links a smoke alarm to a community alarm or other safeguards relating to fire prevention and relaunched in conjunction with recommendation c above.

- e) *To develop strong links between Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Surrey Care Association.*

The lessons that were identified following the Sheriff's inquiry into the fire at Rosepark Nursing Home in Strathclyde, will be at the centre of the links that will be made between SFRS and the Surrey Care Association (whose membership is made up of the Independent Residential Care and Nursing Homes sector in Surrey). SFRS are holding meetings with Surrey Care Association to discuss the Rosepark finding and to plan away forward with the members of the Association.

- f) *Increase the numbers of vulnerable older people having fire alarms linked into their telecare packages.*

With only 500 of the 13000 people with a community alarm system having a smoke alarm linked to the telecare, this work is required to ensure that the 12,500 without linked smoke alarms are offered this service and that in the future a linked smoke alarm forms part of the standard Telecare and Telehealth package. With the projected rise in older people's population, this has been highlighted as extremely important for the prevention for fire deaths.

- g) *To ask government to develop a national policy on fire fatalities in regards*

to planning for older vulnerable members of the community.

The joint working group will look into the best way of taking this work forward via the Chief Fire Officers Association and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

- h) To preface the report by marking the distress the incidents that led to this report caused the loved ones of the victims. To take the learning from the report to make the lives of the Surrey residents safer.*
- i) The Committee recognises the work that the officers have undertaken and celebrates the improved partnership between Surrey Fire and Rescue and Adult Social Services.*
- j) The Committee recommends that the branding and marketing strategy for the Surrey Safe initiative be widened to engage with Local Area Committees, District and Borough Councils and the commercial sector.*

Recommendations h), i), and j) are supported.

- k) That Surrey Fire and Rescue and Surrey County Council Adult Social Care investigate and where possible put in place arrangements for Surrey County Council's contract beds provided by Anchor and Care UK Homes to be fitted with sprinkler systems*

We welcome this recommendation as the next stage of work following the agreement to fit sprinkler systems to SCC care homes and greatly increase the fire protection in Anchor and Care UK homes.

We are assured that with the implementation of the Older Person's strategy, together with the full implementation of the recommendations made by both the Adult Social Care and Communities Select Committees, the improvements made will do as much as possible to ensure that the lives of Surrey residents are made safer.

Mr Michael Gosling
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
and Health
19 June 2012

Mrs Kay Hammond
Cabinet Member for Community Safety

CABINET RESPONSE TO COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

CONSULTATION ON AN OUTCOMES-BASED COMMISSIONING FRAMEWORK FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH SECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE IN SURREY APRIL 2013 – MARCH 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Select Committee submitted the following recommendations to Cabinet:

1. That Cabinet notes the concerns of the Communities Select Committee as to the potential impacts of the framework on partnership working and tripartite funding arrangements.
2. That Cabinet considers an impact assessment (including equalities) and that this impact assessment takes place prior to a decision made on whether to proceed with a procurement exercise.

RESPONSE

I welcome the ongoing considerations that the Select Committee has given to the development of a new approach to funding voluntary, community and faith sector infrastructure in Surrey. The Select Committee has provided useful advice that has helped shape the approach, particularly in recommending the active involvement of frontline VCFS organisations with all partners in the co-design process to ensure that their needs were fully reflected in the proposals.

The outcomes-based commissioning approach is intended to achieve greater focus on a positive impact for Surrey residents, particularly the vulnerable, while also reducing duplication. The proposed framework, which is subject to public consultation until 29 June, is the product of extensive collaboration with partners in the VCFS, districts and boroughs and health.

Following the consultation, there will be an appropriate period to pause and reflect on the responses. An approach will be developed that responds to the points raised in that consultation.

Mrs Helyn Clack
Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games
19 June 2012

CABINET RESPONSE TO COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

ONE COUNTY, ONE TEAM: RIGHT TO CHALLENGE POLICY

RECOMMENDATION

The Select Committee submitted the following recommendation to Cabinet:

That the Cabinet give further consideration to and promote further debate on how the community right to challenge should be used by the County Council to advance its localism policy and to assess its impacts on its commissioning approach.

RESPONSE

1. I thank the Communities Select Committee for their contribution and the Cabinet welcomes the recommendation that further consideration should be given to how the community right to challenge is used by the County Council.
2. I agree that we need to consider the wider impact of this policy and I will organise a Member seminar which will help us shape our views. The Cabinet has agreed to defer consideration of the community right to challenge policy for six months to enable us to do this.
3. In the meantime, should an Expression of Interest be received following the enactment of the legislation on the 27 June 2012, it will need to be considered by Cabinet. This will be communicated to Members and officers.

Mrs Helyn Clack
Cabinet Member for Community Services and the 2012 Games
19 June 2012

CABINET RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT SELECT COMMITTEE

HIGHWAY TREE MAINTENANCE

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) That the devolvement of tree maintenance to Districts and Boroughs, and where appropriate, Town and Parish Councils, be encouraged and explored further.
- ii) That officers examine in detail the financial and operational benefits that could be achieved through devolvement of tree maintenance, and report back in detail to the Environment and Transport Select Committee in September 2012.
- iii) That Local Committees should hold the budgets for pollarding and tree maintenance, until any decision is made with regards to devolvement.
- iv) That proactive pollarding of trees be encouraged, whereby their ongoing maintenance could be devolved (as in recommendation i).
- v) That an accurate tree survey on Surrey's highways be completed prior to negotiations regarding the devolvement of tree maintenance to Districts and Boroughs.

RESPONSE

I welcome the recommendation that the devolvement of tree maintenance is explored further. A detailed examination of the benefits of doing this is the next step and officers should report back ensuring clarity on how this may be achieved whilst continuing to ensure that the safety risk from highway trees is managed as the first priority. To ensure this is achieved adequately I would advise a later return to select committee in 2012 in reflection of the other directorate priorities that are ongoing over the next quarter.

As tree maintenance activities, including pollarding, are annually defined and reflect the management of identified safety risks my view on the recommendation is that the budgets should remain with the service. There is scope within the current arrangements to respond to customer requests and on this basis I would encourage councillors to make requests for tree maintenance work via their local office representatives.

The proactive pollarding of trees was reintroduced by the service in 2011. It is recognised as an important tree maintenance activity and I would support the recommendation for officers to continue this work and improve the programme where possible. A progress update on the 2011 and 2012 pollarding programme should be included within the follow up select committee report.

In support of the progress of any devolvement, it is accepted that officers should review the existing tree survey data and its compatibility with the requirements of the Districts & Boroughs etc. Subsequently officers should then identify the options to fill any potential gaps within reasonable time and cost constraints. An outline plan on

how this will be achieved should also be included in the follow up select committee report.

Mr John Furey
Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
19 June 2012

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS - JUNE 2012

(i) HOME BASED BREAKS FOR CARERS

The agreement of a contract be authorised with the current supplier for a further period until 7 January 2013 on the same terms and conditions as the present agreement.

Reason for decision

To ensure that the Council continues to benefit from the reduced rates agreed while allowing time for a structured bidding process.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health – 1 June 2012)

(ii) ESHER C OF E HIGH SCHOOL, ESHER: TWO FORM OF ENTRY EXPANSION TO MEET BASIC NEED

- (1) That the business case and release of capital funding for the expansion of Esher High School be approved.
- (2) That the extension of the commission to the consultant to develop the design drawings and specification and seek competitive tenders, subject to reviewing the consultant's fees be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposal delivers value for money and supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(iii) BELL FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL, WALTON ON THAMES: EXPANSION FROM A 4 FORM OF ENTRY JUNIOR TO A 3 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO MEET BASIC NEED

1. That the business case for the expansion of Bell Farm Junior School be approved.
2. That the award of a construction contract to deliver the advanced enabling works during the school summer holiday period be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposals deliver value for money and support the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(iv) BURHILL INFANT SCHOOL, HERSHAM: EXPANSION FROM A 3 FORM OF ENTRY INFANT TO A 3 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO MEET BASIC NEED

That the business case for the expansion of Burhill Infant School be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposals deliver value for money and support the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area. The early delivery of provision will ease the organisation of the school through the construction phase.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(v) GROVELANDS INFANT SCHOOL, WALTON ON THAMES: EXPANSION FROM A 3 FORM OF ENTRY INFANT TO A 2 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO MEET BASIC NEED

(1) That the business case for the expansion of Grovelands Infant School be approved

(2) That the award of a construction contract to deliver the advanced enabling works during the school summer holiday period be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposals deliver value for money and support the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(vi) BOXGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GUILDFORD: EXPANSION FROM A 2 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO A 3 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO MEET BASIC NEED

(1) That the business case for the expansion of Boxgrove Primary School be approved.

(2) That the award of a construction contract to deliver the advanced enabling works during the school summer holiday period be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposals deliver value for money and support the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(vii) POTTERS GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL, FARNHAM: EXPANSION FROM A 1 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO A 2 FORM OF ENTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL TO MEET BASIC NEED

- (1) That the business case for the expansion of Potters Gate Primary School be approved.
- (2) That the award of a construction contract to deliver the advanced enabling works during the school summer holiday period be approved.

Reason for decision

The proposals deliver value for money and support the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in their area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(viii) PROPOSED EXTENSION TO CHILDREN'S HOME: 51 HOLLAND CLOSE, REDHILL

- (i) That acceptance of the quotation, as detailed in the submitted report, for the construction of a rear single storey extension to 51 Holland Close, in order to avoid closure of this complex needs children's home be approved.
- (ii) That the total project cost, including directly incurred costs of consultancy advice, asbestos testing, and building control fees, be noted.

Reason for decision

The project will result in a well located and established children's home being rendered fit for purpose, which will ensure its continued operation into the future. The Children's Service believe that these improvements will improve the functionality of the home and enable the current 'good' rating to become 'outstanding'.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration – 12 June 2012)

(ix) FAIR ACCESS PROTOCOL 2012/13

That the proposed Fair Access Protocol for 2012/13 be approved.

Reasons for decision

- The County Council is required to have a Protocol in place that all schools participate in.
- The proposed Protocol meets the requirements of the School Admissions Code.
- Schools have been involved in the development of the Protocol and are broadly happy with what has been proposed.
- The Protocol will ensure that children who are out of school can be placed in school quickly.

- The Protocol will ensure that no school is expected to admit more than their fair share of children with challenging behaviour or children previously excluded from other schools.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Children and Learning – 13 June 2012)

(x) EXPANSION OF BURPHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL – PUBLICATION OF STATUTORY NOTICES

That the publication of statutory notices be approved such that:

- Burpham Primary School will expand on 1 September 2013.
- the PAN would increase from 30 to 60 in September 2013.
- the school would increase its admission to Reception by 30.
- additional classrooms would be built to increase the capacity of the school from 210 to 420 places.

Reason for decision

Additional junior places in Guildford are necessary. The expansion of Burpham Primary School would increase parental choice and provide effective long-term provision to meet the needs of local children, promoting high standards, ensuring fair access to educational opportunity, and promoting the fulfilment by every child of their educational potential.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Children and Learning – 13 June 2012)