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Supplementary Agenda

for the meeting of

THE COUNTY COUNCIL

to be held on

10 DECEMBER 2019

(i)

6 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

(Pages 5
- 25)

1. The Leader of the Council or the appropriate Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee to answer any questions on any matter relating to the powers and duties of the County Council, or which affects the county.
2. Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions.

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2019****QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF STANDING ORDER 10.1****DENISE TURNER-STEWART, CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIRE
AND RESILIENCE****1. MR ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK:**

How many times has Surrey Fire and Rescue Service had to call on neighbouring fire brigades for support so far this year and on how many occasions has Surrey FRS been called out to help neighbouring forces?

Response:

From 1 January to 26 November 2019, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service attended 544 incidents over the border. During the same period, other fire and rescue services have attended 106 incidents within Surrey.

MIKE GOODMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE**2. MS BARBARA THOMSON (EARLSWOOD AND REIGATE SOUTH) TO ASK:**

Across the County many communities are blighted by the number of HGVs operating from local sites who ignore restrictions and have no respect for the local residents who live in these communities. The Planning Authority (SCC) do hear and take action against some unlicensed sites operating without an Operator's Licence, but many others seem to ignore their licence conditions. Can the Cabinet Member assure us that SCC will review these Operating Licences, investigate any breaches, including access routes, and take action against those companies?

Response:

In order to use goods vehicles with a gross weight in excess of 3.5 tonnes for the carriage of goods on the public highway it is necessary to obtain an operator's licence ('O' Licence). In order to obtain an 'O' licence, an operator must have at least one place to keep their vehicle/s. This place is called an operating centre and has to be suitable for use as such. The vehicles covered by the legislation can range in size from relatively small tippers and transit vans, to 44 tonnes articulated vehicles.

'O' Licensing is centrally administered by the DVSA (Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency) from Leeds. England, Scotland and Wales are currently divided into 8 areas. Surrey County Council is situated within the London and the south east of England area. Each area has a Traffic Commissioner appointed by the Secretary of State. It is the function of Traffic Commissioners to determine applications for 'O' licences, and also to take disciplinary action against operators who breach any conditions attached to their licence.

Surrey County Council, as a Local Authority has a statutory right to object to applications to authorise the use of sites as operating centres within the County. Officers monitor these applications and notify the local Member of any applications in their area. Applications for new sites are reviewed and an objection made or conditions sought if there are highway safety or environmental concerns. However the County Council does not determine these applications or have any role in enforcing them. We will notify the Traffic Commissioner if we are aware that an operator is breaching a licence and ask them to investigate.

The grounds upon which Surrey County Council can object to these applications include the adverse environmental impact caused by the use of the site as an operating centre, but only in the vicinity of that site; the technical suitability of the access on to the public highway for the goods vehicles to be authorised; and also the capacity of the site to accommodate the vehicles to be authorised.

Aside for operators licensing, breaches of weight restrictions by Heavy Goods Vehicles can be a major problem for local communities. In October our Trading Standards team carried out a joint operation with Surrey Police in Chobham and as a result the Police were able to issue 7 fixed penalty notices, and we also wrote formally to the operators involved. We plan to carry out a further operation elsewhere in the county early in the New Year and will use the learning to consider how best to take this issue forward elsewhere.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

3. MR CHRIS BOTTEN (CATERHAM HILL) TO ASK:

In these Council papers a sum of £50m is pledged for a High Street Fund, in addition to the £1m per Division mooted in emails to members.

Could the Leader describe the systems for establishing the good governance for processing these payments, so as to ensure maximum impact and value for the public purse?

Response:

Surrey County Council has transformed its approach to capital investment. As part of this fresh approach, additional capital spend will: ensure a more environmentally sustainable future; support vulnerable residents; keep Surrey connected; and contribute to containing future revenue costs.

As part of the Capital Programme we are proposing to launch a £100m Community Investment Fund over 5 years, which is intended for investments in local communities that enhance those places and enrich the lives of residents. This may include the regeneration of some town centres and high streets. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify that we are proposing to launch one £100m Community Investment Fund. There will be no £50m High Street Fund or additional £1m per division.

We will work with Borough and District Councils, as well as other partners, including Local Economic Partnerships to either fully fund or pump-prime investment. There will also be an opportunity to leverage government funding, Community Infrastructure Levy and other sources to support this work. The proposal is subject to approval as part of the Capital Programme element of the budget next year. Following this, we will develop a set of rules and processes around what projects are funded. To launch this programme of work, I am proposing a workshop for all County Councillors to identify suitable projects that will make a real impact on communities.

MATT FURNISS, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS

4. MRS HAZEL WATSON (DORKING HILLS) TO ASK:

At the 19 September 2019 meeting of the Communities Environment and Highways Select Committee a proposal was put forward to introduce on-street parking charges with the surplus parking income to be used to fund future parking reviews.

Is the Cabinet Member aware that in small market towns such as in Dorking:

- The top priority is to attract shoppers and visitors to the town as opposed to deterring them through additional on-street parking charges.
- The number of on-street parking spaces is very limited which would restrict potential income.
- The likelihood would be that cars would be displaced to nearby residential roads to avoid the charges.
- Existing time limited parking spaces free of charge facilitates churn on the High Street.
- As a result of introducing such charges, parking reviews in the District would be limited by lack of surplus income which is unrealistic to obtain?

Will the Cabinet Member thus reconsider this proposal for small market towns such as in Dorking where it is unrealistic and unworkable?

Response:

Thank you for your question about the planned changes to the councils on street parking policy. The recommendations to the select committee in relation to parking reviews are detailed here:

a) The review process has been refined over the last 10 years and there are no significant changes proposed to the process as we believe it is working well.

b) The scope of parking reviews should be adjusted to suit the funding available. Where there is no parking surplus or other income to put towards it, the review proposals should only include restrictions that maintain road safety, prevent serious obstruction or essential access to facilities.

c) Local and Joint Committees should look to introduce on-street parking charging to help improve access to retail areas.

As you will know the district and borough councils in Surrey carry out on street parking enforcement for us through agency agreements. They provide an effective service and most also manage to break even or make a surplus in the process. Parking charges can help provide a surplus but they are not essential for this to happen. Where there is a surplus from parking enforcement it can be put back into the local community by funding highway improvements or parking schemes. In addition Department of Transport advice on the operation of Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) is that they do not expect it to be subsidised by the tax payer.

The recommendations above put the emphasis on local committees to consider the financial bigger picture when they are making decisions about on street parking restrictions. Some district enforcement teams, Mole Valley for example, consistently operate CPE at a loss (up to £90,000 deficit some years). This means the parking review process must always be funded from the council's revenue budget, which is not sustainable in the long term, particularly for non-essential parking restrictions.

The decision to implement parking restrictions lies completely with Local Committees, but in relation to Dorking you might want to consider:

- Providing a free parking period followed by a charge for staying longer than say 30 minutes, this could improve turnover
- Enforcement efficiency could be greatly improved reducing costs
- Visitors should be directed to the town centre car parks (which have a charge) rather than driving around the town centre looking for a free parking space which impacts on air quality
- I also understand there are resident parking schemes in many of the roads surrounding Dorking High Street so displacement should not be an issue

So my recommendation to you is for the local committee to work with the district enforcement team to review how parking enforcement could be carried out on a more cost effective basis and produce a comprehensive parking business plan that looks at both on and off street parking holistically.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

5. MR JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK:

The Impact Statement includes a bullet point in the Conservative future vision of Surrey County Council, to “consider the conversion of any surplus county council owned land to public allotments to produce food for food banks”. Please confirm a) why food banks are part of this vision, which is titled what the Conservatives believe a forward-looking County would look like, and b) whether the Council would consider community farms or food growing co-ops on surplus land, thereby enabling this to not only produce food but create local employment.

Response:

I am pleased Councillor Essex has read about the scale of this administration’s achievements in the Impact Statement.

Our vision is to make better use of our surplus land to better serve Surrey’s local communities. Allotments are just one possibility, and there are a range of potential benefits for local residents if we as community leaders can think more imaginatively about how this land could be used.

I am grateful for his constructive suggestion on how we can encourage our communities to get more involved in the use of surplus land. One of our focus areas for the next five years is to support communities to be more independent, and I would welcome his continued engagement in our agenda for supporting communities to participate more in civic life.

DENISE TURNER-STEWART, CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIRE AND RESILIENCE

6. MR ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK: (2nd Question)

After the Grenfell Tower tragedy, members were assured that there were no tower blocks or other buildings in Surrey which were built with the same dangerous cladding. In light of the

recent Bolton fire, further questions have now arisen. What additional safety checks have been made on buildings in this county since the 15 November fire?

Response:

Since the fire in Bolton on 15 November 2019, business fire safety teams have worked with building control officers and building owners of the three original ACM clad buildings to continue to monitor the current state of cladding removal and are satisfied with the progress and plans to keep residents safe.

Prior to 15 November 2019, a fourth building has been identified with HPL (high pressure laminate). A Business fire safety officer is working with the development owners and relevant building control to ensure that plans to remove this cladding are suitable and sufficient, timescales are realistic and that residents are adequately protected.

Since the Bolton Fire our teams have been working with all local borough planning officers to make contact with all owners and responsible parties to further identify all buildings above 11 metres as well as those above 18 metres. To support this further, four members of the SFRS Business Safety Audit Team will be dedicated specifically to this work. This will be a partnership approach to ensure that all of these buildings are assessed, fire risk assessments reflect any risks with cladding, and initial safety considerations and actions are identified. This will move into plans for the building to be made safe through appropriate remedial work.

We have been closely monitoring the findings of the Grenfell inquiry and the response from the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC). We will continue to follow developments and implement any future recommendations for fire services nationally.

MATT FURNISS, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS

**7. MRS HAZEL WATSON (DORKING HILLS) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

The initial discovery phase of the Rethinking Transport programme ran from April to July 2019.

Given the importance of the programme for improving services for Surrey residents and to assist with tackling Climate Change, what were the findings of the initial discovery phase, how much money has been spent on the Rethinking Transport programme to date, what further progress has been made since July 2019 and what is the timetable including dates for taking the Rethinking Transport programme forward?

Response:

The Rethinking Transport programme is a key strand of the council's transformation portfolio, through which we are seeking to fundamentally redefine our relationship with transport and travel in Surrey: encouraging a shift away from single occupancy journeys made by road towards more sustainable forms of transport, including multiple occupancy journeys, public transport and active travel.

IMPOWER consulting were commissioned to help fulfil the objectives of the Discovery phase, which – through a wide-ranging engagement programme between April and July 2019 – sought to bring partners and residents together to understand how and why people travel, the strengths and weaknesses of Surrey's transport system and our inclusive ambition for the future.

The Discovery phase generated three core ambitions for the programme:

1. **Take journeys off the road / Reduce congestion** by reducing the need to travel through smarter working, making better use of existing assets and embracing innovation
2. **Improved air quality** for residents by encouraging a 'modal shift' to sustainable transport (with associated health and wellbeing benefits)
3. **Increase independence** by establishing the infrastructure to allow all residents to make their own travel arrangements with access to a greater range of sustainable transport modes

The engagement also provided valuable insight into the perception and Surrey's transport system the experience of travelling in and around the county:

- There are some recognised strengths in the current transport infrastructure and evidence of good cross-partner working, but there are also some common challenges – e.g. congestion, air quality and a lack of flexible and safe transport alternatives
- There are particular groups of residents, such as adults with additional needs, who often have poor travel experiences
- Problems across Surrey are starting to have an impact on economic development and are increasing costs to businesses
- There is an inability to speak with one voice about transport, which is contributing to disparate decision-making and an unintegrated transport system
- Transport requirements across Surrey are changing but there is no clear narrative about how transport delivery will respond and achieve the ambitions of the 2030 Community Vision
- There is no quick fix to solving Surrey's shared transport challenge – sustainable change will require leadership, investment, a sustained effort in tackling problems and a high level of cultural and behaviour change

The Discovery phase generated nearly 70 ideas for pilot projects, with the potential to help achieve the programme ambitions while also testing different ways of working and innovative concepts on a small scale before potentially scaling up.

In July 2019, the programme moved into the Development phase: developing a shortlist of pilot projects while also working with key strategic partners to establish the 'system leadership' required to address Surrey's shared and complex transport challenges.

The pilots, to be delivered in 2020, include schemes to:

- enable and encourage employees (public and private sector) to make sustainable transport choices;
- promote more sustainable modes of transport to and from major hospitals, enabling easier access and reducing congestion; and
- provide greater independence for adults with additional needs with the support of personal transport budgets and independent travel training.

IMPOWER produced a system leadership toolkit, providing a framework for working with partners on strategic issues, which can now be applied to a range of key policy areas.

Funding for the programme has been drawn from the council's Transformation Fund. Expenditure to date totals £215,000, which includes the services of IMPOWER consulting (£184,143) and internal Project Management resource (£31,120). IMPOWER continued to support this phase of the programme until October, from which point the council and its partners have continued to take the work forward in partnership.

Today, the council is also considering its response to the climate challenge, and we know that 46% of Surrey's emissions come from the transport sector. Subject to receiving support, the proposed Greener Future 'call for action' indicates where additional investment may be required, including in sustainable transport infrastructure.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

**8. MR JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

In the Impact Statement that accompanies the Organisational Strategy, it is stated that the county council is looking to make 14.6 hectares of its land available for building homes. Please confirm the location and size of each of these sites, as well as their current use.

Response:

The 14.6 Ha (36 acres) relates to some 15 properties, predominantly brownfield sites, distributed over 8 boroughs and districts across Surrey, that were identified in 2018 as being surplus to operational or service requirements.

We are unable to provide any commercially sensitive information, such as the identity of the sites, whilst they undergo the necessary due diligence.

MIKE GOODMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE

**9. MR ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK:
(3rd Question)**

Has the Council looked at the Heathrow Southern Railway proposal, which would provide frequent airport express trains with a planned journey time of less than 30 minutes from Guildford and just 19 minutes from Woking?

Following this Council's motion passed on 8 October; whether or not airport expansion goes ahead, if we are to reduce the number of cars, minicabs and taxis on our roads, a fast environmentally friendly link to Heathrow will still be important. Does Surrey County Council feel inclined to support the Heathrow Southern Railway initiative and if so, will the leadership lobby the government accordingly?

Response:

Improved rail access to airports is a key priority within our agreed Surrey Rail Strategy.

I am pleased to confirm that I and other Cabinet Members have met with Heathrow Southern Railway several times in recent years. We have discussed in some detail their proposal for a southern rail access to Heathrow Airport and exchanged ideas on the subject. Of course, Heathrow Southern Railway's proposals are one of a number that are being put forward by a range of organisations to improve rail connectivity to Heathrow Airport.

We have set out to Government the principles that we would require any southern rail scheme to deliver. The consortium of local authorities that comprise the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group have also done so. The principles that we and the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group have set out include a requirement for any southern rail link to deliver a comprehensive solution for improving access to and from the airport for passengers and

airport colleagues, from both the London and wider south of England. Vitally, we believe that enhanced rail connectivity should be in place prior to the utilisation of a third runway.

We have and we will continue to make the case for a southern rail access to both Government and Heathrow Airport. We believe that this vital infrastructure project is something Government and Heathrow Airport must progress as a priority. This is a matter that I will press the new Government to take forward after the general election, so that a southern rail link can be expedited and be better aligned with the opening of a new runway.

MARY LEWIS, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

10. MR JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK: (3rd Question)

With regard to the current provision of universal youth services: a) please provide a breakdown on the current 657k budget spend by borough and district and location across the county and confirm how many of the 19.6 full time equivalent youth worker posts are currently filled, again by district and borough council area; and b) please confirm why it is proposed to only carry out an equality impact assessment after the consultation process is complete.

Response:

a) Cabinet has decided to undertake public consultation on:

- whether Surrey County Council enables the voluntary community and faith sector to use the youth centres for the benefit of young people at little or no cost and;
- Whether Surrey County Council delivers universal open access youth work.

There are no cost savings associated with this consultation to the council which is committing to the continued running costs of circa £975k for the youth centres owned and leased by the council.

The universal open access youth workforce of circa 100 staff but only 19.6 full time equivalent has a budget of £657k. The current distribution of the available youth worker hours is set out in the table below.

District/Borough	weekly youth work hours
Elmbridge	96
Epsom and Ewell	9
Spelthorne	36
Surrey Heath	55
Woking	59
Runnymede	9
Guildford	56
Waverly	22
Tandridge	53
Reigate and Banstead	68.5

Mole Valley	24
Other	27
Centralised	54
Weekly Total	568.5
Vacancies (not D&B specific)	140

There is no statutory duty for Surrey County Council to provide universal open access youth work. We are consulting on whether the existing workforce capacity supports the community, voluntary and faith sector to provide services for young people and also to provide targeted support for vulnerable groups.

b) The consultation will be open for a significant period of time until the end of April 2020 to enable local engagement with stakeholders and in particular young people.

The Council has a duty under the Education Acts which requires it to “secure, so far as reasonably practicable, provision of educational and recreational leisure time activities for young people”. In carrying out this duty, the Council must ensure that young people are consulted and have a say in the local offer.

Young People will therefore be involved in developing the equality impact assessment which will be completed throughout the consultation and used to inform any future decisions.

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CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Colin Kemp

PORTFOLIO: Economic Prosperity & Infrastructure

Enterprise M3 Joint Leader's Board

The first Joint Leader's Board, since I was appointed Chair of the board, was held on the 21 November. We set a challenging and progressive agenda with a clear focus on skills, local economy and future work programmes; as well as a new directive to encourage members of the board to contribute their thoughts on potential future programmes, for recommendation to the LEP main board.

LEP Member Briefing

We invited the Chief Executives of both of Surrey's LEPs (Coast to Capital and Enterprise M3) to present their plans for upcoming Local Industrial Strategies (LIS) as they relate to Surrey's interests. Following the presentations was an in-depth question and answer session, which covered critical points including; clean growth, green infrastructure development and the localisation of funding for places that need it most.

Economic Development Strategy for Surrey

Working with the Surrey Future Steering Board we have appointed consultants ARUP to review current data and research, identify and fill gaps in the evidence base, and identify strategic priorities for Surrey. The work is covering a number of workstreams including: the impact of digital technology, supporting healthy places, building resilience to climate change, looking at the role of green infrastructure, looking at future mobility needs, and supporting skills and employment. The consultants are reviewing the evidence bases which the LEPs have pulled together to develop the LIS and District and Borough Economic Development Strategies. Three 'check-and-challenge' workshops will be carried out:

- with the District/Borough Economic Development Officers to discuss the findings of the document review and data analysis;
- with Surrey County Council officers and external partners to discuss the priority drivers of change which will influence the county going forward; and
- with Surrey County Council officers across a number of directorates to review the emerging recommendations and how they will affect delivery of cross-cutting programmes and policies throughout the County.

We Are Surrey – Conference on Social Value Impact

On the 13 November, roughly 200 Surrey business and community/ charity organisations attended We Are Surrey, at Guildford Cathedral. This event, organised annually by Surrey, aims to inspire local businesses and help them build relationships with community organisations and charities to work collaboratively on social value initiatives. Highlights included:

- An inspiring key note by Fran Boorman, on 'business for good is good for business' www.fran.global/
- The Giving Trees (made by Surrey Arts) providing businesses with practical ideas to take back to their workplace and implement.
- The Surrey social value awards – won by Kier Highways for helping vulnerable young people, who are furthest from employment, into jobs through S-Skills training and work placements; and the Yorkshire Building Society in supporting Oxted to become a Dementia Friendly Community.
- Panel discussions – businesses sharing social value experiences (Gatwick, Minted Box, IoD) and a focus on skills and hidden talent (Canon, Philips, Kier, Watts Gallery, Careers Enterprise Co./LEPs, Surrey Youth Focus)

This event couldn't have happened without the support of its sponsors including Balfour Beatty, FSB and Guildford Cathedral, and the dedication and hard work of SCC staff, led by Rebecca Brooker (Communities and Prevention).

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Matt Furniss

PORTFOLIO: Highways & Transport

Winter Service

The [Cold Weather Plan](#) has been updated and is now available on the website. We have over 12 tonnes of salt in stock and all of our 1800 grit bins were inspected in the summer. Deliveries of salt have been made to Districts and Boroughs so they can keep their priority pavements clear, and arrangements are being made to provide salt to the farmers who help us during snow events. There has been a review of Priority 2 salting routes following engagement with Local Committees and their feedback has been incorporated into the revised Priority 2 routes. These are available to view on the [online map](#). Priority 1 routes were reviewed and updated following Local Committee engagement in 2018 and there have been no significant changes to the Priority 1 routes since then. 8 gritting runs were completed in November and gritting runs are continuing during December.

During the 2019/20 winter season Surrey and Kier will be working with Meteogroup to trial the "Route Based" method of forecasting. Route Based Forecasting provides more accurate localised forecast modelling, allowing for more precise decision making. Providing the trial is successful, this will improve the accuracy of decision making and provide a reduction in the number of full gritting actions required over the winter season. Anticipated benefits are both environmental and financial, including a reduction in CO2 emissions, driver call out costs, and salt usage.

Epsom Marketplace Improvement Project

Following the successful pedestrian and vehicle improvements delivered by the County Council in Epsom Town Centre last year, in January works started on the next phase, the Marketplace. This is a £1.8m scheme to significantly enhance the pedestrian heart of the town, encompassing quality paving materials and street furniture, mature trees, public art and maximising use of the available space. Epsom & Ewell BC committed in excess of £1m towards the scheme, which has been designed by the County Council in close cooperation with the Borough. This is a very busy area with many shops and a thriving market. A real challenge has been to "keep the town open" and everybody informed while works progress. The County's contractor, Kier, have done an excellent job in managing the site and it is being delivered to programme with completion due in spring 2020. So far, there has been nothing but positive feedback. The completion of this scheme won't be the end of highway improvements to Epsom Town Centre, in 2020 we move on to improving the northern footway. Again, this will be designed and delivered by the County Council in partnership with Epsom & Ewell, who are providing the funds.

Improvement to Scheme Information provision

Currently information about our planned maintenance "Horizon" programmes for roads, pavements, bridges and structures, traffic signals, safety barriers and drainage are shared on the SCC website in a series of documents separated out for each District/ Borough. Our Highway Asset GIS team have been working to provide this data on a GIS based map and plan to make the map live for publication of the 2020/21 programmes at the end of January 2020. The map will be updated regularly so the public and members will be able to see any updates or changes to the proposed schemes. This work follows on from previous improvements to map based data provision which includes map based [winter gritting routes](#) and map based [parking restrictions](#). Other improvements are being looked at and will be reported on in due course.

Electric Bus Scheme

At the UK Bus Awards in November, our electric bus scheme operating on Guildford Park and Ride was awarded the 'silver' runners-up award in the Environment Category. The nine fully electric Park and Ride buses came into service in February. They are the first ultra-low emissions buses in the county, with others planned. These electric buses were introduced in partnership with Stagecoach and a supporting Department for Transport grant. Stagecoach operates the Guildford Park and Ride services commercially, carrying 900,000 passengers each year and taking hundreds of car journeys out of the town every day to help relieve congestion and tackle air quality.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Mike Goodman

PORTFOLIO: Environment & Waste

Rail

I remain deeply concerned by the impacts and proposed longevity of the RMT strike on residents and businesses reliant on South Western Railway. I will be raising my concerns with the Minister immediately when a new Government is formed; and I encourage all Members and residents to do the same.

Aviation

Through various liaison and working groups, we continue to press Heathrow to commit to the funding and delivery of appropriate mitigation for a proposed third runway, which must be based upon suitable modelling. We are clear that mitigation includes provision of a southern rail access to Heathrow, which must be provided before any runway becomes operational. We continue to work with HSPG, Heathrow and the Government to make this a priority. We also continue to work with Gatwick on their DCO process that is likely to be submitted in 2020. The government have still to decide on the climate committee's report on aviation; we sought assurances on what the government view was, and this is still outstanding.

Unauthorised Waste Sites

The number and scale of unauthorised waste sites in the County is of great concern. The law is not working at present, the planning system is impotent to rectify matters and the Environment Agency has insufficient resources to do so. In the meantime, the environment of Surrey is suffering. A letter to the Minister is being drafted to highlight these concerns and to seek immediate action.

Waste Management

Following the update to Cabinet in October, which centred around the community recycling centres, a further waste strategy paper will be brought to Cabinet in the Spring.

Tree Planting

A new Tree Strategy is being developed which outlines how we will deliver this initiative and ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, this strategy is currently being consulted on. The intention is that this will be launched in March alongside a Surrey week of planting trees. On 1 December SCC launched our Trees for Christmas campaign, in partnership with Surrey Wildlife Trust and Squires Garden Centres. The campaign encourages Surrey's residents to make a small donation which will be used to plant trees across the county.

Climate Change

In the last three months the Greener Futures programme has progressed at pace. The Greener Futures Design Challenge has produced 10 interesting and unique climate change projects from residents and community groups. Over the last month three workshops have been held to support these residents in developing their project ideas and these will be presented at a Community Showcase event on 11 December. The Scrutiny Task Group has completed an exploration exercise which has involved considering evidence from residents, council officers and external experts. This research was compiled into a report and a Call for Action. This work, alongside input from partners including residents, organisations, Boroughs and Districts, will help us to develop a Surrey wide Climate Change strategy.

Over the next three months these recommendations will be further tested, costed and scoped out to be part of the Climate Change Strategy. The University of Surrey has been commissioned to undertake baseline emissions and strategy research which will also inform the strategy. The strategy will be launched in April 2020 at a high-profile event. Over the last six weeks myself and Gill Steward, Director of Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, have visited each of the Boroughs and Districts to meet with the Leaders and Chief Executives to discuss climate change and waste. These meetings have been positive and have galvanised our intention to work together, to tackle climate change and waste, and this work will continue in 2020.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Denise Turner-Stewart

PORTFOLIO: Community, Resilience & Countryside

Community Safety Team

The Community Safety Team hosted a safeguarding adolescents conference on 29 November to tackle child exploitation. The delegates discussed trauma based practice, disruption tactics and the work being undertaken to create an integrated partnership team to protect our most vulnerable children from exploitation.

Countryside

Following the recent decision of Cabinet to agree to the removal of charges from all countryside estate car parks with effect from 1 April 2020, the service is now actively developing proposals to implement a voluntary payment scheme utilising the existing payment infrastructure. The service has identified a nearby voluntary scheme in Richmond Park and we will continue to liaise with the Royal Parks team to ensure we learn from their experience of introducing a similar approach. Work is underway to develop an extensive programme of repairs and improvements for the County's Public Rights of Way network which I intend to prioritise in 2020 should the additional funding be made available as part of the council's budget setting process.

Military/Civilian partnership and community resilience

We have been training community volunteers in first aid concentrating on CPR and the use of public defibrillators with partners in boroughs and districts. The team has also been getting out our messages during the winter months through 'Surrey Prepared' which helps people to be better prepared and more resilient. Remembrance Day saw all Surrey fire engines wearing the large vehicle mounted Poppy for the first time and the fire service was represented at both the Menin gate in Ypres and the Cenotaph in London. The first of the Veterans hubs which meets on the last Thursday of every month at Guildford Fire station, hit its 6-month anniversary. The plan is to learn from how well this has worked and roll out a Veterans hub on every station in Surrey over the coming year.

Corporate Health & Safety

The work of the new corporate health and safety hub continues. One of the things identified was that the training of senior officers and members needed to be refreshed. On 26 November 2019, 22 officers and members attended a health and safety programme delivered by an external barrister. Positive feedback has been received as the hub continues to ensure health and safety matters are at the centre of service delivery. As part of the Community Protection Group (CPG), health and safety corporately has now come into sharper focus and consequently work is underway to ensure that our corporate risks are being better managed and reported.

Emergency Management and Resilience

Current activity includes supporting the county council and the local resilience forum in their winter preparedness working including ensuring on-call and business continuity arrangements are in place for the Christmas stand-down. Our team is also working with the Police and borough and district councils to ensure that residents opposed to the oil exploration and production in the county have their right to protest protected while seeking to limit the impact on the wider community. We are working with the Police and counter terrorism officers to ensure we learn from the recent audits and reviews of SCC's infrastructure, focusing on ensuring buildings are as secure as possible. We also continue to plan for an EU exit should it happen in January.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Sinead Mooney

PORTFOLIO: Adults and Public Health

Adult Social Care Mental Health Services

Work continues to bring mental health services back under the management of Adult Social Care and to ensure the safe transfer of staff and patients. I am pleased to say that the hard work of all those members of staff involved in undertaking the detailed work with Surrey and Borders Partnership (SABP) NHS Foundation Trust to determine numbers of patients and agree future responsibilities has brought us to the position where the commencement of the transfer of staff and services can happen. I would like to thank SABP for their partnership and commitment to working closely with us during the transfer. There is now good system support and understanding of the reasons for the changes and a strong willingness to work closely to develop new ways of working across the system. Once the transfer is complete the next phase of Mental Health transformation can be developed. Work is underway to be able to bring these plans to Cabinet in January 2020.

Budget Update

As at the end of September 2019, a balanced budget outturn was forecast for Adult Social Care in 2019/20. There remains a significant pressure in relation to expenditure on care packages. Net care package expenditure commitments were £8.7m higher than the 2019/20 budget. Although the plan remains to continue to reduce care package expenditure in the remainder of the year, it is recognised that it will now be very challenging to achieve all of the care package savings originally budgeted by the end of the financial year. However, it is still anticipated that a balanced budget can be achieved by use of alternative measures to compensate for any slippage against care package savings including underspends, additional income and management of inflationary pressures. Although confidence remains high that a balanced budget can be achieved for 2019/20, the pressures relating to higher than budgeted care package expenditure make the delivery of next year's 2020/21 budget much more challenging. A balanced budget was also forecast Public Health. As at the end of September, all 2019/20 savings plans we either achieved or on track to be achieved.

Accommodation with Care and Support (Supporting Independence)

Cabinet approved recommendations in the extra care housing report on 29 October 2019. Work will now begin with our joint venture partner to progress the development of two selected sites. Separate work will commence to prepare the tender for the remaining site. We are in the process of agreeing the funding allocation with the Transformation Support Unit for dedicated project resources. Property Services continue the review of SCC assets for use for specialist accommodation.

Surrey Public Health Peer Challenge

This took place between the 19-21 November. Cllr Griffiths, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Oliver and I attended interviews as part of the challenge. More detail can be found in Cllr Griffiths update.

Roll out of hybrid devices from November-January 2020

As part of our digital revolution, Hybrid devices have been allocated to front line staff within Adult Social Care to enable the move to a more agile workforce, it also allows our staff to spend more time in face to face meetings with our residents. The devices were successfully tested with a group of staff and we are now rolling the devices to all front-line staff. Feedback so far has been very positive. The pilot roll out has been completed in the Reigate and Banstead locality team and the Transitions Team, staff have their devices with 4G sim cards. We are hoping that this work will be completed by January 2020.

Raising awareness of the flu vaccination programme

I was vaccinated against the flu this winter in support of the [campaign](#) to raise awareness of the flu vaccination programme and highlight that some groups, such as pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition, are eligible to receive the jab for free. I visited a Surrey community pharmacy to get the jab. The video was shared widely online and on social media, including by our health partners.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Mary Lewis

PORTFOLIO: Children, Young People & Families

The Integrated Care System

I'm pleased to announce some exciting new developments within Integrated Children's Commissioning effective from November. The Council will now be leading on commissioning of children's health provisions for Surrey Heartlands and this is expected to strengthen the way we integrate, deliver and continue to develop our Integrated Care System (ICS). To ensure we continue to have a joined-up approach with NHS commissioners, we have made a joint appointment with Trudy Mills taking on the role of ICS Director of Children's and Learning Disabilities Services.

New model called Mockingbird

The Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) has been investigating placements (homes for our children in care) and we are not yet happy that the provision is good enough for our children as too many are living outside of the county and this therefore remains a priority for myself and the service. On the subject of better homes for our children, we launched an innovative new model called Mockingbird in October – developed to improve the stability of fostering placements and to strengthen the relationships between carers, children and young people, corporate parenting staff and birth families. The event was attended by large numbers of our foster carers and CPB Members and it was positive to see the commitment from everyone involved.

Youth Centres

Last week Surrey County Council's Cabinet agreed that Surrey's 35 youth centres will be offered at little or no cost to the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector and the Council will keep up its investment in the centres of £975k and will retain its £655k spend each year on youth workers to support this change. There is no cost saving for the Council, but we are anticipating a much more vibrant youth offer as a result of this policy change.

Team visits

Since the last meeting of Full Council, I have continued visiting front line teams across the service, linking to Lord Laming's recommendations from his [2009 report](#). I would like to thank Members of the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee, along with councillors Bill Chapman, Hazel Watson and Richard Walsh for joining me on these important visits. We have found that the services for looked after children are not yet feeling the full benefits of the children's services transformation however this is a strong focus of the continued improvement work for the next 12 months, along with a refresh of our services supporting children with disabilities. Our practitioners, managers and support staff are vital to children's services achieving the improvements we need and in late-October I facilitated a corporate parenting staff event with colleagues in Woking. Over 300 staff came along to meet the teams, share ideas, feedback on recent changes and help to shape the future of our services. It has also been my pleasure, alongside Dave Hill, to recognise the achievements of a large group of social work practitioners that have recently completed their associated and supported year (ASYE) in children's services. They are a very enthusiastic group who were delighted to be working at Surrey County Council during this exciting period of transformation.

Ofsted visit

Ofsted recently visited Surrey for their fourth 2-day monitoring visit on 31 October and 1 November. This visit focussed on the effectiveness of child protection work and the impact in reducing risks and improving children's circumstances. This was a positive visit and while there is still more to do, the substantial progress made over the last year was recognised by the inspectors. In addition, Trevor Doughty - the Commissioner for Surrey's Children's services who last reviewed our progress in April, has carried out a follow-up inspection of our services and the progress made since then. Trevor will be reporting his findings to the DfE later this month and I will share these, and the Ofsted report when they are available.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Julie Iles

PORTFOLIO: All-Age Learning

Home to School Transport

Last quarter it was reported that the Council has begun its consultation on its home to school and college travel and transport policy. A comprehensive timetable of engagement has been undertaken to allow families, schools and young people to have the opportunity to engage with officers to understand the proposals detailed in the consultation. Eight engagement events have been held in different regions of the County. Officers have also used existing partnerships to promote the consultation and the key messages, this includes: Early Years/ Primary/ Secondary/ Special Phase Council's, Schools Bulletin, Council Social Media Accounts and direct emails to existing service users including Family Voice Surrey who are the representative groups for parents and carers across the County. The consultation will be considered at the Children's, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee on 13 December before the consultation closes on 15 December. It is expected that a Cabinet Member Decision will take place on 31 January 2020 after considering the analysis of the responses received and recommendations identified by officers.

Libraries

Work is now underway to develop and implement a detailed action plan to deliver the co-design work for the library service. There are continuing conversations with current partners as well as bringing in new partners to support the delivery of the strategic objectives for the service and the priorities of the Council. In order to develop our offer to small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) and support the local economy, we will be meeting our first new partner, the British Library in London on 19th December.

Education

Our overall educational attainment remains strong. Based on the 2019 key stage data, Surrey remains above national average for the majority of measures with the exception of progress between Key Stages 1 and 2 in writing and maths. A lot of hard work is underway to improve the progress for disadvantaged pupils particularly where it is below national average in all measures.

Government Funding Allocations

Since the summer, there have also been a number of national developments that are important to us in Surrey. In October, the government announced indicative funding allocations for individual councils for schools and high needs (SEND) for 2020/21, following the announcements of overall national schools funding increases at the end of August. The estimated increases for Surrey are £26m for schools and £12.2m for high needs SEND. These figures will be updated in December to reflect changes in pupil numbers. There has been an increase of approximately 1.5% in funding rates for early year's providers from last year.

Schools and the Schools Forum

This Forum supported a number of technical changes to school funding, largely intended to move Surrey schools funding further towards the government's national schools funding formula. A proposal to transfer 3.3m of schools funding to the High Needs Block (the same proportion as in 2019/20) was consulted on with schools. Surrey's Schools Forum considered the proposal and rejected it by a majority. The Council now has to consider whether to appeal to the Secretary of State.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Zully Grant-Duff

PORTFOLIO: Corporate Support

The Contact Centre Adults Team

The team are handling non-urgent emergency referrals for the Adults Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). This will free up capacity for specialist officers to focus on urgent safeguarding issues. Professional referrals, e.g. from GPs and Nurse Specialists, are also being routed through the same team via an online portal. There has been a significant increase in the volume of referrals made using this channel.

Reporting Highways defects

Customer feedback is being actively gathered on the newly re-designed online journeys for reporting highways defects. The information will be used in continuous improvement so that online journeys evolve with the changing needs and preferences of customers. Webchat has been launched on several selected pages of the SCC website to assist with locating information and self-service generally.

SEND services- single point of access

A new single point of access to SEND services is being designed, taking lessons from the successful implementation of the Children's Single Point of Access (C-SPA). The aim is to provide a more consistent first contact experience for families and an initial gateway focussed on early intervention.

Agile working & Digital

Agile working is covered extensively in the staff engagement and listening events scheduled throughout November and December, of which four have been planned. There is an Agile Champions group which meets regularly, trialling new ways of working. Additionally, an Agile Working Framework has been developed which sets out the Council's principles for new ways of working alongside a briefing pack for managers, which will accompany targeted agile leadership development workshops beginning in January. The Digital Business & Insights programme formal procurement process has begun after a successful Supplier Briefing Event on Wednesday 4th December to engage with potential bidders. A total of 25 companies attended, including software-as-a-service vendors and implementation partners. All materials from the day, including documented questions and answers, will be published on the procurement portal to ensure openness and transparency for all interested suppliers. Once the procurement process is complete the programme will return to Cabinet for approval to award the contract and commence implementation.

Apprenticeships

A refreshed approach to improve the council's performance against government targets is achieving results with the latest data showing 1.65% (138) of staff members are undertaking apprenticeships compared to 0.95% as at September 2018. The national government has set public sector organisations a target of 2.3% of workforce headcount undertaking apprenticeships; headcount in this context is based on pre-determined criteria. When the criteria are applied to SCC's workforce, the target for SCC staff members undertaking apprenticeships is 192. There are well developed plans to offer work-ready programmes leading to apprenticeships for the county's Looked After Children, Care Leavers and NEETs and plans to increase apprentice pay rates form part of 2020/21 Surrey Pay proposals.

Coroner's Court

The Coroners and Justice Act 2009 transferred responsibility for provision of support to Coroners from the Police to upper tier local authorities. In Surrey, this took effect from April 2018. The council supports the service through the employment of a staff team, the Coroner's Office. It also funds accommodation, contracts, tendering, IT and office systems. There are also paid and volunteer Court Ushers. The Senior Coroner in Surrey is responsible for running the Coroner's Office under the national jurisdiction of the Lord Chancellor. Valuable management and customer services support has been provided in recent months by senior Customer Services staff. The service was the subject of an LGA Peer Challenge at the end of November, which focused on its operational efficiency and cost effectiveness.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Melville Few
PORTFOLIO: Finance

Finance:

- The financial results for the half year (6 months) reflect continuing progress to achieve a balanced outcome for the year, with the year-end position forecasting a deficit of £1.9m.
- There are however some concerns with regards to the SEND expenditure and the ability of Adults services to achieve their forecasted package levels, particularly through the winter period.
- Of the savings target of £82m set for the year, £54.4m has been achieved or identified as achievable by year end with £16.2m currently being identified as black or not likely to be achieved.
- Work continues in identifying other savings to close the gap.
- The capital budget is £128m. It is currently forecast to be underspent by £4.5m at year end.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Natalie Bramhall

PORTFOLIO: Property

Property Service

We have now completed the process of recruitment for the Assistant Director positions following the appointment of Patricia Barry to the position of Director of Land and Property in October. One person is already in post, with another joining this month. A further two people will commence employment early in the New Year and all have extensive senior leadership experience within the property and local government sectors.

There is now an ongoing review of the Service underway with the intention to ensure that the service have capable and experienced teams in place to continue to help drive the transformation property agenda piece across the organisation and Partners.

Disposals

Last month we completed a significant disposal to one our District and Borough Partners, with another disposal due to exchange this month, subject to ongoing due diligence by the purchaser.

Residential JV

Our Development Partner has successfully undertaken works to partially demolish outbuildings on one site within the initial basket of four opportunities; protecting the existing planning permission that was in place. Progress does remain slow with options being explored to accelerate future batches.

Shape – One Public Estate Board (OPE)

This OPE Board was set up by the Leader when he held the Property Portfolio, and brings us together with District and Boroughs, SECamb, Health Partners, Police etc. to bring forward large projects. This was administered through one of our Districts and Borough's. The decision has been made to bring this function back in house and Patricia Barry will be Lead Officer. This has now been agreed with Partners and is being implemented.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Alison Griffiths

PORTFOLIO: Health

Surrey Public Health Peer Challenge

A Local Government Association led Peer Challenge Team was invited to conduct a review of the Surrey Public Health team and the wider health and care system between 19-21 November. An external team of trained peers from across local government and health met with key officers, elected members and other system leaders across local government, health and other partners, to examine the opportunities and challenges that the local system is facing. The Peer Team delivered their findings and recommendations at a Feedback Session on 21 November and Public Health will lead on implementing the recommendations thereafter.

Suicide Prevention Strategy

A suicide prevention strategy implementation plan has now been developed with a workshop being held on 10 December so that partners can add their activity to the plan. An application was put to the LGA for bespoke support around suicide prevention. This has been successful, and we will be holding a meeting with LGA to take this forward. The service has received £15,000 to deliver a social marketing campaign targeting men. Work has begun on planning and developing this campaign. We hope to start the campaign in February/ March 2020.

New look for Healthy Surrey - www.healthysurrey.org.uk

Healthy Surrey has been reviewed and updated to make it more useful and accessible for both residents and professionals in enabling prevention and self-care within Surrey. This has resulted in the site getting a new look and feel, including new tools to help users navigate the site to direct information of local services and self-care. It has also enabled an easy access route for professionals to refer patients and clients to specific services for example Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and Surrey's stop smoking service. There will be specific communications following the formal re-launch of the website happening over online and offline resources in the New Year.

Physical Activity Strategy

Led by [Active Surrey](#), a consultation on Surrey's new Physical Activity Strategy will start in January 2020 with a series of thematic events focussing on priority areas of Surrey's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and will focus on how whole systems can work together. For each event Active Surrey will partner with a relevant key agency and use leading deliverers to showcase best practice work to start conversations about what more can be done. A wrap-up event in July will then bring all discussions together to explore findings and inform final objectives of the strategy, due to be published in October.

Outcome of procurement for healthy weight service

Active Surrey in partnership with Central Community Health and University of Surrey have been awarded the Family Healthy Weight Contract. The service will launch at the end of January 2020. It will focus on families from priority groups, such as families on low incomes, those living in the most deprived areas, children with a disability. To increase access to these families; the service will work closely with the new 21 Family Centres in Surrey.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Mark Nuti

PORTFOLIO: (various)

I have been settling into my new role as Deputy Cabinet Member and will be assisting with various projects, and not have a set portfolio as such.

Capital Expenditure Budget

The first project I am working on is scrutinising the existing Capital Expenditure Budget, specifically looking at projects that weren't moving in the right direction and updating timelines.

Project Two is to, using that experience, look at the new proposed Capital Expenditure Budget, qualify schemes into deliverability and affordability, and add to it schemes that would engage our Green agenda and directly benefit all residents of Surrey. There are some very exciting new areas within the Capital Budget that will directly benefit our residents now and for many years to come – I hope you will agree when the completed budget is released.

Green Transport Projects

Meetings ensued with Runnymede Borough Council and Woking Borough Council in relation to green transport projects that would reduce SCC spend on SEND transport and promote green movement around the county with electric community vehicles. There have been discussions regarding Solar Farms and bio fuel usage and of course our tree planting project (as detailed in Mike Goodman's update).

Upcoming Library Visits

I have been assigned the responsibility of overseeing the transformation of our fantastic library service and as such will endeavour to visit all sites, in our various divisions over the coming months.

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