

Cabinet – supplementary papers



Date & time
Tuesday, 28
January 2020 at
2.00 pm

Place
Ashcombe Suite,
County Hall, Kingston
upon Thames, Surrey
KT1 2DN

Contact
Vicky Hibbert or Angela
Guest
Room 122, County Hall
Tel 020 8541 9229 or 020
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Chief Executive
Joanna Killian



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Cabinet Members: Mr Mel Few, Mr Matt Furniss, Mr Mike Goodman, Dr Zully Grant-Duff, Mrs Julie Iles, Mr Colin Kemp, Mrs Mary Lewis, Mrs Sinead Mooney, Mr Tim Oliver and Ms Denise Turner-Stewart

Deputy Cabinet Members: Mrs Natalie Bramhall, Miss Alison Griffiths and Mr Mark Nuti,

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This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact Vicky Hibbert or Angela Guest on 020 8541 9229 or 020 8541 9075.

4 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

a Members' Questions

(Pages 1
- 2)

The deadline for Member's questions is 12pm four working days before the meeting (22 January 2020).

5 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES , TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

(Pages 3
- 6)

To consider a report submitted by the Resources & Performance Select Committee in relation to Item 7: Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Joanna Killian
Chief Executive
Monday, 27 January 2020

QUESTIONS, PETITIONS AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Cabinet will consider questions submitted by Members of the Council, members of the public who are electors of the Surrey County Council area and petitions containing 100 or more signatures relating to a matter within its terms of reference, in line with the procedures set out in Surrey County Council's Constitution.

Please note:

1. Members of the public can submit one written question to the meeting. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and so cannot relate to "confidential" or "exempt" matters (for example, personal or financial details of an individual – for further advice please contact the committee manager listed on the front page of this agenda).
2. The number of public questions which can be asked at a meeting may not exceed six. Questions which are received after the first six will be held over to the following meeting or dealt with in writing at the Chairman's discretion.
3. Questions will be taken in the order in which they are received.
4. Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. The Chairman or Cabinet Members may decline to answer a question, provide a written reply or nominate another Member to answer the question.
5. Following the initial reply, one supplementary question may be asked by the questioner. The Chairman or Cabinet Members may decline to answer a supplementary question.

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It is requested that if you are not using your mobile device for any of the activities outlined above, it be switched off or placed in silent mode during the meeting to prevent interruptions and interference with PA and Induction Loop systems.

Thank you for your co-operation

CABINET – 28 JANUARY 2020**PROCEDURAL MATTERS****Members Questions****Question (1) Will Forster (Woking South):**

- a. Please could the Cabinet confirm the latest future projections for the number of pupils in primary and secondary schools in Woking Borough, and the maximum capacity in local schools?
- b. If the proposed developments in Woking Town Centre and Woking Football Club are built, what action does the Council believe needs to be taken to ensure sufficient school places in Woking?

Reply:**a. Primary Places**

The substantive capacity and published admissions numbers (PAN) across Woking Borough total 8,400 places or 1,200 PAN respectively.

The forecasts of places shows:

- In 2020/21 academic year the total number on roll will be exceeded by 40 places although these are catered for by bulge classes already in place across the borough.
- Thereafter the numbers on roll are within the capacity of the schools, through to the end of the forecast period to 2028/29.

Secondary Places

The substantive capacity and published admissions numbers (PAN) across Woking Borough total 5,400 places or 1,080 PAN (through additional classes at Hoe Valley in 2018/19 and 2019/20 and planned for 2020/21 and beyond).

The forecasts of places shows:

- In 2021/22 academic year this would be exceeded by 100 places in year 7 and by 96 places across the school in other year groups as pupil product arises from new housing.
- Year 7 places exceed the PAN and overall numbers on roll exceed the capacity through to the end of the forecast period to 2029/30.

Plans are being formulated to provide the necessary places through school expansions to ensure the Council's statutory duty to provide school places is met.

- b. The development of 1,000 homes would normally yield around 250 primary children and 180 secondary children. The pupil product arising from the developments in Woking Town and at Woking Football Club will depend on the type of new homes provided. Urban developments are likely to be smaller properties, such as flats, and the pupil yield would be less.

Once the details of the applications and size of homes are known these will be adjusted in the forecasts to give an update for demand.

To ensure there are sufficient places in Woking, the Council would seek developer contributions through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and or Section 106 contributions, as appropriate. The funds would contribute to providing the necessary additional places across Woking Borough to meet need.

Mrs Julie Iles
Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning
28 January 2020

RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE

Item under consideration: REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET 2020/21

Date Considered: 21 - 24 January 2020

- 1 This year the Select Committees reviewed the draft budgets of the Directorates relevant to their remits. Each Select Committee received budget information in two stages: initially this was a summary of the council-wide budget including capital plans, pressures and risks followed by a detailed supplementary agenda with specific Directorate budgetary information.
- 2 Each Select Committee was attended by the relevant Cabinet Members and Executive Directors supported by Finance officers to present budgets and answer questions from Members.

Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee

- 3 The Select Committee was supportive of the budget whilst noting the risks and challenges presented by the need to deliver on the directorate's capital programme to increase specialist places in the state school sector in the county and the continued social worker recruitment gap. The Select Committee was clear that the greatest challenge for Children's Service in the future was workforce recruitment and retention.
- 4 Questioning was prominent on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) with concerns raised on the significant £17m efficiencies required in SEND services, the overspend in the High Needs Block and the importance of successful transformation of this service.
- 5 The Select Committee was pleased to note the integration of children's health and social care commissioning and bringing transport under Executive Director, Dave Hill.
- 6 The Chairman suggested that each Cabinet Member should be able to articulate for residents how their relevant budgets support the delivery of the eight outcomes in the Council's Organisation Strategy.

Adults and Health Select Committee

- 6 The Select Committee reviewed the two council budgets in its remit; Adult Social Care and Public Health. Regarding Adult Social Care, Members sought assurances on the operation of the service's strength-based approach to assessment. The Committee also raised concerns about the cost of care, the sustainability of the care market and the locus of spend on mental health.
- 7 The Chief Executive of Healthwatch Surrey raised the risks of making efficiencies to services that are used by vulnerable residents such as learning disabilities/autism services and asked how these would be mitigated. The Executive Director acknowledged that there were considerable risks attached to efficiencies.
- 8 The Select Committee was concerned about the relative funding of Public Health in Surrey per capita relative to other Local Authorities in England. The Select Committee request that the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public

Health confirm that they consider this budget to be adequate to support the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Strategy's emphasis on prevention; and to take appropriate action, including lobbying government, if they are not able to confirm that view.

Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee

- 8 The Select Committee emphasised the need for budget contingencies to only be used in a last resort scenario. Contract management must be suitably robust to ensure the delivery of services and value for money for residents with specific references made to highway maintenance and waste.
- 9 Members wished to draw attention to fundamental need for the council's directorates to meet efficiency targets more effectively than they have in the current budget year bearing in mind especially the uncertainties around funding in the following year.
- 11 The Select Committee raised the Greener Future programme and how this would be developed to meet the call for action agreed by council. In particular, the Members discussed the impact of improving public transport in the county.

Resources and Performance Select Committee

- 12 The Select Committee were assured that there was an earmarked reserve to counteract the current SEND deficit. The Committee remains concerned about its eventual resolution in the medium term.
- 13 The Select Committee questioned the status of the efficiencies outlined in the budget. The Cabinet Member for Finance considered these to be deliverable and would monitor the list through a monthly Red-Amber-Green rated report to Cabinet.
- 14 Members noted that the contingency allocation in the budget had increased by £10m and that reserves would stand in the region of £40m by the end of the year.
- 15 The Select Committee noted that budget equalisation reserve (BER) existed to absorb large pressures such as the Eco-Park project and Adult Social Care budget pressures as they might arise.
- 16 Members questioned where responsibility for the management of headcounts within Directorate's budget envelopes lay and how the cumulative impact of recruitment and vacancies on the council were managed. The Select Committee would follow this up with the Executive Director for Finance & Resources directly.

Recommendations:

The Select Committees agreed the following:

- a) Select Committees recognise the difficulty of formulating this year's budget given the announcement of a general election in December, however, effective scrutiny requires more time to prepare draft in order to make reasoned, specific recommendations. Select Committees should be involved in budget setting from late 2020 to enable effective scrutiny of the 2021/22 budget

- b) That Select Committees reviewed the refreshed Transformation Programme noting the risks associated to the sustainability of the council's finances on delivering these projects and would plan future scrutiny as necessary
- c) That the Cabinet Member for Highways considers increasing the revenue budget for bus services. This would be to increase the use of these services and to help the council meet its Greener Future ambition to be carbon net zero by 2050
- d) That the Cabinet Member for Adults & Public Health confirm that they consider the Public Health budget to be adequate to support the Surrey Health & Wellbeing Strategy's emphasis on prevention; and to take appropriate action, including lobbying government, if they are not able to confirm this view

Nick Harrison
Chairman of the Resources and Performance Select Committee

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