


Notice of Meeting

Cabinet - Supplementary Agenda



| <u>Date and Time</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Contact</u> | <u>Web:</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Tuesday, 30 January 2024 2.00 pm | Council Chamber, Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8EF | Huma Younis or Sarah Quinn huma.younis@surreycc.gov.uk or sarah.quinn@surreycc.gov.uk | Council and democracy Surreycc.gov.uk  @SCCdemocracy |

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

4 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

a MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

(Pages
1 - 2)

There is one Member question. A response from Cabinet is attached.

b PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(Pages
3 - 4)

There is one public question. A response from Cabinet is attached.

Joanna Killian
Chief Executive

Published: Monday, 29 January 2024

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Thank you for your co-operation.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Cabinet and most committees will consider questions by elected Surrey County Council Members and questions and petitions from members of the public who are electors in the Surrey County Council area.

Please note the following regarding questions from the public:

1. Members of the public can submit one written question to a meeting by the deadline stated in the agenda. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and 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 an 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.

CABINET – 30 JANUARY 2024**PROCEDURAL MATTERS****Members Questions:****Question (1) Clare Curran**

- A. Will Surrey's "Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)" be used to meet Part 6 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 ? (This defines "Environmental protection as "protection of the natural environment, cultural heritage and the landscape from the effects of human activity including, amongst other things, the protection of chalk streams from abstraction and pollution).
- B. Where groundwater flooding is a high risk (e.g. along the chalk spring line on the dip slopes of the North Downs above Surrey's primary and secondary aquifers) will Surrey's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment mandate the use of a Hydrogeological Risk Assessment and specialist SUDS advice for all developments (including Permitted Developments) so that Districts and Boroughs are properly supported in their duty, as Planning Authorities, to comply with NPPF paragraph 162 in their spatial strategy and in their policies e.g. the use of SUDS.

Reply:

- A. Part 6 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 relates solely to the Government's proposals for Environmental Outcomes Reports (EORs) which it intends to introduce to replace the established Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) regimes.

The definition of environmental protection in Part 6 of the LURA places no obligations on the Surrey Local Nature Recovery Strategy which is required under separate legislation - Part 6 (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) of the Environment Act 2021.

The Surrey LNRS would not be used to meet any obligations that Part 6 (EORs) of the LURA 2023 may place in due course on planning authorities.

The government does state that EORs may be used to amplify Local Nature Recovery Strategies, however, final details on how exactly EORs will work have not been finalised and were subject to consultation in March 2023. The government response to this consultation has not yet been published.

- B. Groundwater flooding, as with all other sources of flooding, can present a significant risk to property and public health. Therefore, new development should be directed away from any areas at risk. Where this is not possible and proposed development is within high-risk flood areas it must meet both the Sequential and Exception Test; the latter of which states "the development will be safe for its lifetime taking account of the vulnerability of its users, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, will reduce flood risk overall". Individual local planning authorities highlight the areas known to be at flood risk through their SFRA but planning policy (including mandatory

assessments required to support applications they consider) is set through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Local Plan process. Any local plan requirements must be proportionate to the size and level of risk associated with the development.

The Local Planning Authority is the arbiter of what evidence is required to validate a planning application. Surrey's Flood Risk and Climate Resilience Team support all LPAs in the development of both their SFRA's and Local Plans to ensure that all flood risk, including from groundwater, is appropriately considered within the planning process meeting the test required by the Planning Inspectorate. Given the complex and costly nature of a Hydrogeological Risk Assessment; it is unlikely that this would be reasonable for most non-major or permitted development applications, except on very high-risk sites.

We also recommend that Local Plans state that Sustainable Drainage Systems are required on all development unless shown to be inappropriate. Permitted Development guidelines are set nationally. The only Surrey wide SFRA is to guide planning applications considered by Surrey County Council in their role as planning authority for Materials or Waste applications and developments on its own properties.

Currently the NPPF states that all major applications and all those applications on sites at flood risk should incorporate sustainable drainage systems, unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate. As statutory consultees for surface water drainage implications, Surrey's Flood Risk Planning and Consenting Team respond to all requests for support and advice within our remit.

Marisa Heath
Cabinet Member for Environment
30 January 2024

CABINET – 30 JANUARY 2024

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Public Questions:**Question (1): Ellen Nicholson**

A previous question I submitted on adult social care provision was to the former Woking joint committee in 2022 about the closure by Surrey County Council run facility of Heathside Care Home in Coley Avenue, Woking. I was then informed that a decision would be made by Surrey County Council in Autumn 2022 about the use of the facility/land. To date I have not been informed of any information concerning decisions on this site.

Since 2022, adult social care developments have led to a recent consultation for closure on Brockhill Extra Care facility in Goldsworth Park, Woking which commenced at the end of 2023 and is due to be reported on at Woking Borough Council shortly.

Does the Cabinet agree with me that Woking is now experiencing a deficit in terms of accessible adult social care and extra care facilities for the Woking population and is likely to impact on timely access to care and support.

What measures do Surrey County Council intend to take in line with the statutory duty under the Care Act 2014 to increase provision of facilities, such as an additional extra care facility within Woking and what time lines and assurances can SCC provide Woking Borough Council that this provision will be subject to business case and commissioning within 2024?

Reply:

Thank you for your questions in relation to how Surrey County Council is ensuring residents have access to care and support at the right time, in the right place.

We are pleased to share that in July 2019 Cabinet approved Surrey County Council's Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy, which sets out our approach to increase the provision of specialist accommodation across Surrey and reduce the Council's reliance on traditional residential care.

The size and scale of our Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy demonstrates Surrey County Council's commitment to transform how residents are supported to live independently in the 'Right Homes with the Right Support'. In total, we have an ambition to deliver over 1,400 units of specialist accommodation across Surrey delivering improved outcomes for our residents and ensuring 'nobody is left behind'.

Included in this Strategy is our affordable Extra Care Housing programme, which has a target to deliver a minimum of 725 units across the County by 2030. We are making good progress delivering this ambition and already have plans in place with development and housing management partners to deliver circa 350 units. We already secured full planning approval at one site and outline planning approval at a further two sites. This means construction will commence in 2024 on the first site and two other sites, subject to full Planning Permission, will follow throughout 2025.

4b

Circa 200 units are planned to be delivered in North West Surrey, which might be suitable for residents that live in Woking with eligible care and housing needs. This demonstrates our commitment to provide equitable access to services for Surrey's residents now and into the future. We also remain confident in our ability to continue delivering statutory services in the Woking area in line with Care Act Assessments of need and corresponding support plans.

Our Land and Property Department continue to undertake a strategic review of the County Council's assets to identify sites that might be used to deliver services. The Heathside site is being considered as part of this review and colleagues will be exploring the art of the possible in terms of location and footprint. A decision on future use with business case will be presented to Cabinet at an appropriate time.

In relation to Brockhill, we (Adult Social Care and Land and Property colleagues) worked closely with Woking Borough Council who have taken the decision to consult on the potential closure of the site.

In addition to our affordable Extra Care Housing programme, we are delivering the following programmes to increase the availability of specialist accommodation through our Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy:

1. At least 500 units of Supported Independent Living for working age adults with learning disabilities and/or autism
2. Between 185-210 units of Supported Independent Living for working age adults with mental health needs
3. Short Breaks for working age adults with learning disabilities and/or autism

Our progress delivering the Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy demonstrates our commitment to provide Surrey's residents the opportunity to live as independently as possible in the 'Right Homes, with the Right Support'.

For further information relating to our ambitious change and transformation agenda across Surrey which seeks to ensure 'nobody is left behind':

- [Living Well in Later Life Older People's Commissioning Strategy 2021 to 2030 - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Older People Residential and Nursing Care - Market Positioning Statement \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

Sinead Mooney
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
30 January 2024