

CABINET

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 25 November 2014 and will take effect on Thursday 4 December 2014 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered. **CALL-IN DEADLINE: 3/12/14.**

The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Cabinet. It is not intended to represent the formal record of the meeting but to facilitate the call-in process. The formal minutes will be published in due course to replace this decision sheet.

County Members wishing to request a call-in on any of these matters, should contact the Senior Manager for Scrutiny or relevant Democratic Services Officer.

The Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday, 25 November 2014 considered the following matters and resolved:

- **REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES, TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL** (Item 5)

Environment and Transport Select Committee's Flooding Task Group:

The response from the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding is attached as Appendix 1.

- **MANAGING SURREY'S WASTE: PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS** (Item 6)

1. That a further report on the Eco Park be brought back to the Cabinet in February 2015 with an updated value for money and affordability assessment.
2. That the need to reduce costs at Community Recycling Centres, by rationalising the service offering be endorsed and that officers be requested to provide a detailed proposal in February 2015.
3. That the proposal to develop a new model of working with district and borough councils to deliver waste services across Surrey be supported.

Reasons for Decisions:

Changes in Surrey County Council's (SCC) approach to managing Surrey's waste, including joint working arrangements between the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) and Waste Collection Authorities (WCA) have the potential to make savings which will help address a funding gap that arises from increasing costs and reducing funding, in addition to contributing to other savings that will be required across SCC in the coming years.

Changes to the management of Community Recycling Centres will optimise their use and has the potential to deliver further savings.

The Cabinet previously requested that in the event that all necessary consents to develop the Eco Park were not secured by 1 November 2014, it should receive a further report. In view of the continued delay it would be appropriate to report again when the position is clear.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Environment and Transport Select Committee]

- **ENDORSEMENT OF THE SURREY HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) (Item 7)**

That the review of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan be adopted as the statutory AONB Management Plan for the Surrey Hills for the period 2014 to 2019.

Reasons for Decision:

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare a Management Plan for any Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty within their authority, and to review this every five years.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Environment and Transport Select Committee]

- **PRUDENTIAL RIDE LONDON - SURREY 100 AND CLASSIC (Item 8)**

1. That the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 and Classic routes for 2015, 2016 and 2017 be approved and that the final detail of the route be determined by the Assistant Chief Executive or Strategic Director for Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Community Services and the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding.
2. That a further decision be brought back to the Cabinet for cycling events from 2018 onwards.

Reasons for Decisions:

The Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 and Classic have become recognised as world class events. They are organised by the London & Surrey Cycling Partnership, a joint venture between London Marathon Limited and SweetSpot Group. The events are delivered on a not for profit basis with a charitable trust overseeing the allocation of grants to sporting and recreational charities in Surrey and London.

The continuation of the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 and Classic events supports the Surrey Cycling Strategy, maintains Surrey's position as a centre for cycling and provides significant benefits in terms of worldwide exposure to potential tourists. It also presents residents with the opportunity to take part in a world class event and to watch world class cycling teams racing in the County.

The event is structured to ensure that all event costs are borne by the event organiser. Surrey County Council and other Surrey partners are not required to provide financial support to the event, with input limited to officer time in reviewing event arrangements to ensure that they meet regulatory and safety requirements.

Extensive work has already been undertaken to reduce the impact of road closures on local communities and liaison with them will continue to ensure this is kept to the minimum possible for events of this size and scale. Some work has already been undertaken to help local businesses to see a positive impact from the events but this can and will be increased in 2015.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Communities Select Committee]

- **FINANCE AND BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2014**
(Item 9)

1. That the Council forecasts an improved revenue position for 2014/15 of £0.5m underspend, as set out in Annex1, paragraph 2 of the submitted report.
2. That services forecast achieving an improved position on efficiencies and service reductions by year end of £69.4m, as set out in Annex1, paragraph 54 of the submitted report.
3. That the council forecasts investing £207m through its capital programme in 2014/15, as set out in Annex1, paragraph 59 of the submitted report.
4. That services management actions to mitigate overspends, as set out throughout Annex1 of the submitted report, be noted.
5. The new fee for amendments to the common land register, as set out in Annex1, paragraph 8 of the submitted report, be noted.

Reasons for Decisions:

This report is presented to comply with the agreed policy of providing a monthly budget monitoring report to Cabinet for approval and action as necessary.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee]

- **LEADERSHIP RISK REGISTER** (Item 10)

That the amendments to the layout and content of the Leadership Risk Register, Annex 1 to the submitted report, be noted and the control actions put in place by the Statutory Responsibilities Network (SRN) be endorsed.

Reasons for Decisions:

To enable the Cabinet to keep the Council's strategic risks under review and to ensure that appropriate action is being taken to mitigate risks in the most effective way.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee]

- **IMPLEMENTING THE CARE ACT - CHARGING POLICY PROPOSALS**
(Item 11)

That the following recommendations be agreed:

1. The Council will consult, over a seven week period, on these proposals as part of a revised charging policy for adult social care services:

- The Council exercises the power to charge for residential and nursing care and non-residential services in every case, unless it is prohibited from doing so by law or determines not to do under Council policy.
 - The Council will charge an administration fee in any case where the person is able to pay the full cost of their care and support for a residential or nursing home placement but nevertheless the person asks the Council to make the arrangements for the placement under the Council's usual terms and conditions.
 - The Council will increase the percentage of available income taken in charges for non-residential services by 10% with effect from 1 April 2015.
 - The Council will consult widely on the discretionary elements of the new deferred payment scheme.
2. That a further report be received by Cabinet at its meeting on 24 February 2015, detailing the response to the consultation and proposed Charging Policy.

Reasons for Decisions:

The Council has previously consulted on the policy of charging for care and support. The recommendations made in this report do not significantly change charging for the majority of people currently receiving care and support but it is right that we consult people who may be adversely affected by the revised proposals. A clear and transparent policy on charging enables people to make advanced decisions about their care and support arrangements.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Adult Social Care Select Committee]

- **RYDENS ENTERPRISE SCHOOL AND 6TH FORM COLLEGE, HERSHAM - PROPOSED EXPANSION** (Item 12)

That, subject to agreement of the detailed financial information, as set out in the submitted part 2 report, expenditure for the provision of an additional form of entry (150 places in Years 7 - 11) at Rydens Enterprise School be approved.

Reasons for Decisions:

The proposal supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in Elmbridge borough.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by either the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Children and Education Select Committee]

- **SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF FRESH PRODUCE FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES** (Item 13)

That a contract, for two years with an option to extend for one further year, be awarded to these three suppliers; Cheesman Bros Ltd, AG Axtons and Bidvest 3663, subject to the agreement of the detailed financial information, as set out in the submitted Part 2 report.

Reasons for Decisions:

The proposal supports Commercial Services ability to provide school and civic meals across Surrey and helps Commercial Services to comply with their legal duty, including The Children's and Families Act 2014, to offer all state-funded schools, including academies and free schools, a free school lunch to all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 from September 2014.

These three suppliers will provide a good mix between local small and medium sized enterprises (SME) and large scale national providers, all of which have demonstrated the ability to deliver the required produce through a competitive procurement process.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee]

- **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FUND APPLICATION (Item 14a)**

That the investment of £0.25m to support the delivery of a three year £2.36m youth engagement programme in Surrey.

Reasons for Decisions:

An investment of £0.25m is requested to secure a further £2.11m of funding to support the Council's priority to create opportunities for young people.

[Note: This report was presented as an urgent item, under Special Urgency Arrangements, with the approval of the Chairman of the County Council and therefore is not subject to call in.]

- **SURREY FIRE & RESCUE: TO APPROVE THE CONTINUED ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTINGENCY CREWING AND THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL RESCUE CAPABILITIES (Item 16)**

That approval for the contract to be utilised for the full extension period to allow further consideration of the options available for the future delivery of this and other capabilities, from 31 March 2015 to 30 November 2015, be agreed.

Reasons for Decisions:

To ensure that:

- Surrey Fire and Rescue Authority complies with its statutory duties under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England 2012.
- To allow more time for various Public Service Transformation Network (PSTN) work strands to be developed which with the objective of improving inter and intra operable resilience.
- A national independent review of firefighters terms and conditions began in October 2014 commissioned by Department for Communities and Local Government, the outcome of which may change contingency requirements as it looks at all of the current Grey Book (nationally agreed) terms and conditions of all fire-fighters. The review could make very significant

recommendations i.e. in terms of the right to strike. [Adrian Thomas has been appointed as the Governments Independent Reviewer and will report back in February 2015.]

- An opportunity to review the specification and term of a new contract is pursued.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Communities Select Committee]

- **RYDENS ENTERPRISE SCHOOL AND 6TH FORM COLLEGE - PROPOSED EXPANSION** (Item 17)

1. That the expenditure of £3,250,000 to support the expansion of Rydens Enterprise School to provide 150 places be approved.
2. That the requirement to agree an inflationary element for the project be noted and officers be asked to ensure a rigorous professional assessment is carried out in order to quantify this and the decision to agree a reasonable sum be delegated to the Strategic Director for Business Services after consultation with the Leader, the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning and the Cabinet Member for Business Services.
3. That if planning permission for the new school is not agreed, an alternative scheme will be provided at the same agreed total cost to the Council.

Reasons for Decisions:

The proposal delivers and supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in the Hershams area.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by either the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Children and Education Select Committee]

- **SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF FRESH PRODUCE FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES** (Item 18)

That a contract, for two years with the option to extend for one further year, be awarded to:-

- Cheesman Bros Ltd for three geographical lots
- AG Axtons for five geographical lots
- Bidvest 3663 for one geographical lot

Reasons for Decisions:

A full tender process, in compliance with the requirement of EU Procurement Legislation and Procurement Standing Orders has been completed, and the recommendations provide best value for money for the Council following a thorough evaluation process. The three suppliers will provide a good mix between local, small and medium sized enterprises (SME) and large scale national provider all of which have demonstrated the ability to deliver the required produce.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee]

- **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS** (Item 19)

Disposal of land at The Hollies, Red Lane, Oxted

That the County Council enter into the Joint Sale Agreement on the basis of the terms that have been negotiated with Ashill.

Reasons for Decisions:

To ensure best value is obtained for the disposal of the County Council's land.

The land is a 'ransom strip' and is not required for any Council service or other operational purposes.

The 'ransom strip' was retained, following an earlier disposal of Council land to George Wimpey (now Taylor Wimpey); specifically because it would control access to adjacent third party land with future residential development potential.

This third party land, which now has the benefit of planning consent for residential dwellings, is owned by Ashill who wish to sell their land in conjunction with the Council's to a developer.

Joint marketing of the combined land has generated a developer as a potential purchaser.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee]

CABINET RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT SELECT COMMITTEE'S FLOODING TASK GROUP

(considered by E&T Select Committee on 27 October 2014)

The Flooding Task Group's recommendations:

- a) Surrey County Council should lobby Central Government to change the powers of the Water Company regulators, such that proper investment in the drainage networks of the water companies can be directed, until such time as the Secretary of State is satisfied that those drainage networks fully comply with current standards.
- b) The Environment Agency should be pressed to give strong consideration to a programme of selective, tactical dredging of specified areas of the Thames.
- c) Surrey County Council should work with partner organisations to make significant improvements to the arrangements for communications in emergencies, and in particular to provide for communication structures between residents and the relevant authorities. Particular attention should be made for special arrangements in holiday periods.
- d) Surrey County Council should work with all the Boroughs and Districts and with residents in the relevant areas to establish flood fora.
- e) That flood alleviation schemes which require a planning application should be submitted as soon as possible for planning consent to the relevant boroughs or district councils or, in the case of the River Thames Scheme, if so agreed by the Environment Agency, to the appropriate National planning authority, or both.

RESPONSE:

Paragraph 26 of the Task Group report includes a table setting out outline capital costs of flood alleviation schemes in Surrey. The table implies that the county council is expected to fund £222m towards the costs of the schemes. Annexe 1 of the Task Group report lists the schemes and identifies the county council of the "bearer" of these costs. There is a foot note to the table stating that "Boroughs and Districts may contribute to the SCC element". Paragraph 26 is misleading. The county council is not responsible for meeting the cost of these schemes or the cost shortfall. The Government's funding formula for the schemes and that of the Regional Flood and Coastal Defence Committee assumes and requires contributions from partners. These may come from a variety of private and public sources and will vary from one scheme to another depending on the beneficiaries.

On the specific Select committee recommendations:

- a) Cabinet recognises that the current regulatory arrangements for water companies may restrict their investment in the necessary measures to prevent some of the harmful impacts of flooding that arise from infrastructure under their ownership. Cabinet agrees that the Council should write to the Secretary of State asking her to address this concern.
- b) Cabinet agrees that it is essential that the maintenance of the Thames secures optimum river flow and agrees to write to the Environment Agency making this

point and seeking information on their maintenance programme.

c) Cabinet recognises the need to work with partner organisations to make improvements to the arrangements for communications in emergencies, and in particular to provide for communication structures between residents and the relevant authorities. Cabinet also recognises that learning points relating to communications following the 2013/14 floods have been captured by Surrey County Council and its partners and are being acted upon, including the establishment of flood forums. Cabinet agrees that particular attention should be made for special arrangements in holiday periods.

d) Cabinet agrees that the Council will work with all Districts and Boroughs, Town Councils, Parish Councils and residents in the relevant areas to establish Flood Forums.

e) Cabinet agrees that it is important to develop a programme of flood alleviation schemes.

John Furey
Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding
25 November 2014

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