

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING - 15 MARCH 2016

MINUTES of the meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DN on 15 March 2016 commencing at 10.00 am, the Council being constituted as follows:

Sally Marks (Chairman)

Nick Skellett CBE (Vice-Chairman)

Mary Angell		David Hodge
W D Barker OBE		Saj Hussain
Mrs N Barton		David Ivison
Ian Beardsmore	*	Daniel Jenkins
John Beckett		George Johnson
Mike Bennison		Linda Kemeny
Liz Bowes		Colin Kemp
* Natalie Bramhall		Eber Kington
Mark Brett-Warburton		Rachael I Lake
Ben Carasco	*	Yvonna Lay
Bill Chapman		Ms D Le Gal
Helyn Clack	*	Mary Lewis
Carol Coleman		Ernest Mallett MBE
Stephen Cooksey		Mr P J Martin
* Mr S Cosser		Jan Mason
Clare Curran		Marsha Moseley
* Graham Ellwood	*	Tina Mountain
Jonathan Essex	*	Mr D Munro
Robert Evans		Christopher Norman
Tim Evans		John Orrick
Mel Few		Adrian Page
Will Forster		Chris Pitt
Mrs P Frost		Dorothy Ross-Tomlin
Denis Fuller	*	Denise Saliagopoulos
John Furey		Tony Samuels
* Bob Gardner		Pauline Searle
Mike Goodman		Stuart Selleck
David Goodwin		Michael Sydney
Michael Gosling		Keith Taylor
Zully Grant-Duff		Barbara Thomson
Ramon Gray		Chris Townsend
Ken Gulati		Richard Walsh
Tim Hall		Hazel Watson
Kay Hammond		Fiona White
Mr D Harmer		Richard Wilson
Nick Harrison		Helena Windsor
Marisa Heath		Keith Witham
Peter Hickman		Mr A Young
Margaret Hicks		Mrs V Young

*absent

11/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Bramhall, Mr Cosser, Mr Ellwood, Mr Gardner, Mrs Lay, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Mountain and Mrs Saliagopoulos.

12/16 MINUTES [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 9 February 2016 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

13/16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 3]

The Chairman informed Members of the following events which she had attended recently:

- The Flag Raising Ceremony for Commonwealth Day at County Hall on 14 March 2016
- Armed Forces Champions Meeting, with 9 of the Boroughs and Districts represented and the Guildford Duke of Edinburgh Awards Presentation, which were both on 3 March 2016
- Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey's Reception for the Nominees for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016
- Surrey Countryside and Rural Enterprise Conference on 10 March 2016
- Sandhurst Leadership Challenge at the Military Academy on 5 March 2016
- Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey's Poppy Appeal Cadet Competition Presentation Evening on 9 March 2016

- On 16 February 2016, there had been royal visits to Denny's Brands, Denbies Wine Estate (Limbcare) and Brocks Chocs by HRH Princess Royal
- HRH The Prince of Wales had visited Ashley CofE Primary School in Walton on Thames on 10 February 2016 and opened the Harmony Centre at the school

- She also reported that at least 25 events that took place in Surrey over the weekend of 4-6 March 2016 to mark the Clean for the Queen initiative

- Improvement and Efficiency Awards Ceremony – 1 March 2016. She informed Members that Surrey Emergency Service Partners won the 'Working Together' gold award and she was delighted to present the awards to Ben Burke, representing South East Coast Ambulance Service, to Mark Hamshar, on behalf of Surrey Police and Ian Thomson from Surrey Fire and Rescue.
- Also at the same event, Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards received two silver awards for their successful partnership and she presented their awards to Amanda Poole of Buckinghamshire Trading Standards and Steve Ruddy of Surrey Trading Standards.

- Lastly, she informed Members that Mr Daniel Jenkins, County Councillor for Staines South and Ashford West had resigned with immediate effect.

14/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 4]

Mr Forster declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 (the motion standing in the name of Mrs Watson) because he worked for a Member of the European Parliament.

15/16 LEADER'S STATEMENT [Item 5]

The Leader made a detailed statement. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix A.

Members made the following comments:

- The expansion of Project Horizon, to include restoration of Surrey's pavements and the extra funding, was welcomed. However, the Leader was asked what impact this initiative would have on this year's revenue budget and whether the £20m was additional money or funding already within the Project Horizon programme.
- Members looked forward to receiving more information at local committees regarding the plans for improving the pavements.
- Surrey taxpayers should not be funding any damage to pavements caused by builders working on property developments and builders should be responsible for reinstating the pavements.
- That Members should be consulted when the pavement repair programme was drawn up.
- The local committees were the right place for the Surrey pavements programme to be agreed because local people had in-depth knowledge of the issues.
- An update on the current position on the combined authorities devolution bid was requested.

16/16 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL PROGRESS REPORT [Item 6]

The Leader presented the Surrey County Council Progress Report, the thirteenth of the Chief Executive's reports to Members.

Members made the following comments:

- The Chief Executive was complimented on his progress report
- Attention was drawn to the improving completion rates for appraisals, in particular in the Environment and Infrastructure and Adult Social Care Directorates
- Staff survey results and a hope that the concerns highlighted would be addressed because Scrutiny Boards would be monitoring progress
- The Leader was asked about Governance arrangements for the Devolution Bid and whether he would be lobbying Government for a Mayor for the area
- A request for more information relating to the proposed new ways of working
- Increasing demand for services was highlighted, in particular school places, where there was a funding shortfall of £30m every single year – this information should be made clearer in any subsequent re-print of this report
- Attention was drawn to the case studies set out in the part 2 section of the report – Celebrating Success. Staff were thanked for their work in making a difference to residents' experience
- A request that future Chief Executive reports included a list of all staff nominated for STAR awards
- Finally, Surrey's transformation and improvement networks were highlighted.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report of the Chief Executive be noted.
- (2) That the staff of the Council be thanked for the progress made during the last nine months.
- (3) That the support for the direction of travel be confirmed.

17/16 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 7]

Notice of eight questions had been received. The questions and replies are attached as Appendix B.

A number of supplementary questions were asked and a summary of the main points is set out below:

(Q1) Mr Robert Evans asked the Deputy Leader for assurance that he would monitor the 'state of play' closely and have a legal team on standby should it become necessary. The Deputy Leader agreed to monitor the situation but said that he would be reluctant to rush into litigation.

(Q2) Mrs Windsor asked the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Health when the County Council would be signing up to the Motor Neurone Disease Charter. She also said that she hoped that the Leader / Deputy Leader would support it. The Cabinet Member could not give a timeframe but said that she didn't envisage any problems in signing it. She also said that she would like Mrs Windsor's resident to be invited to the Health and Wellbeing Board to present her case.

(Q3) Mr Townsend requested that arrangement for the three newly created senior leadership roles in the Children, Schools and Families Directorate be reviewed in one year's time to ensure that it was working satisfactorily. The Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement agreed to the request and said that she would be keeping the new structure under close review to ensure all workstreams were in place.

(Q4) Mrs Watson asked for clarity on who would make any decision to reduce grant or contract funding to particular organisations and would Members or carers be involved.

Also Q4, Mr Mallett asked the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Wellbeing and Independence to confirm that the £17.4m savings was 'real money' and also what percentage of the grants / contracts it represented? He also asked for confirmation that front line services would not be affected by the cuts. **Mr Essex** requested information about the Equality Impact Assessments (EIA).

The Cabinet Member's response to the supplementary questions was that 116 organisations in Surrey received approximately £22m in grants from the Council and that it was currently working in partnership with the voluntary organisations to examine these grants and contracts carefully. He also confirmed that going forward EIAs would be produced.

(Q5) Mr Beardsmore queried the last sentence of the response from Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement and said how could the Council work with schools to manage the transition if there had not been a decision on the proposed national funding formula for schools. The Cabinet Member said that

the Council knew the broad terms of the proposals but detail was being released in a piecemeal fashion and that she would update Mr Beardsmore when she had more information.

(Q6) The Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding provided a verbal response to Members, which he agreed to circulate after the meeting. He said that:

- The £6m pavement programme would follow the lines of Project Horizon.
- Last year, Highways officers had carried out a full assessment to determine the functionality and impairment of this network.
- Due to funding decisions that have had to be made, the funding for Year 1 had been set but in subsequent years, local committee input would be required to determine the programme, in consultation with residents.
- The method of allocation had been graded in the officers' review by priority 1-4 and details would be sent to local committee Chairmen and Members shortly.

Both **Mr Cooksey and Mr Essex** asked for the level of funding in the 2016/17 budget for this project and whether it would come out of the budget for safety defects on roads and if not, where was the funding coming from? **Mrs White** asked the Cabinet Member if he agreed that developers should reinstate pavements damaged by their building works and suggested that there was a need for sufficient enforcement officers to make this happen.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that, as announced by the Leader, there was £6m to invest in pavement restoration this year, out of a £20m budget for this work over the next 5/6 years. He also confirmed that Project Horizon for roads was still in place and that Years 4 and 5 of this programme would go ahead. Finally, he said that he would discuss Mrs White's request with the Leader.

(Q7) Mr Kington asked the Leader of the Council if he was committed to supporting reform of the County Council's budget making process and was advised by the Leader that all Scrutiny Boards had the right to request information to scrutinise services and that it could be requested earlier with Members working on provisional data.

(Q8) Mr Cooksey asked the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding if he would agree that Boroughs and Districts should be informed, as a matter of course, when gully emptying and cleaning was about to take place. The Cabinet Member agreed that Boroughs and Districts should be advised and that as part of the Devolution discussions, the County Council would discuss improvements to these working practices with them and then advise Members.

Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios are attached as Appendix C.

Members made the following comments:

- The Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning was asked to explain the benefits of the Rural Statement for Surrey, issued last week, which he did. He also said that he would provide copies of the document to all Members.
- The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Wellbeing and Independence was asked for his view on the funding shortfall in his portfolio and to expand on the issues facing Adult Social Care. The Cabinet Member said that increased demand continued to be an issue, as was the status of providers in the market

and the impact of the introduction of the living wage on those providers. The transition of special needs children into the Adult Social Care service was also significant. He hoped that, if demand continued to increase that the Government would allow an increased precept going forward.

- In response to a query about joint commissioning of the Occupational Therapy Service, the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement confirmed that speech therapy was included within the contract.
- The Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement was pleased to report that secondary school places had recently been allocated for September 2016. Applications had increased by 11,000 but 85% of Surrey pupils had been offered their first preference, with 96% of Surrey pupils being offered one of their six preferences. She acknowledged that there were a few problem areas and in response to a plea from the Member for Claygate, agreed to try to resolve the issues in that area.
- Mr Kington asked the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Health several detailed questions relating to Welfare Reform and the impact on low paid families, in relation to their council tax payments and the Borough / District hardship fund. The Cabinet Member agreed to respond outside the meeting.

18/16 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS [Item 8]

There were no local Member statements.

19/16 ORIGINAL MOTIONS [Item 9]

ITEM 9(i)

Under Standing order 12.3, the Council agreed to debate this motion.

Under Standing Order 12.1, Mrs Watson moved the motion which was:

‘This Council requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister to give the support of Surrey County Council to achieving his objective of remaining within the European Union as:

- (i) jobs in Surrey are more secure with Britain remaining part of Europe – the biggest trading market in the world,
- (ii) prices are lower than they would be if we were outside Europe – meaning households in Surrey save on average £450 a year; and
- (iii) our police can make our streets safer by being part of a wider European force that tackles cross border crime.’

Mrs Watson made the following points:

- She requested that the Leader wrote to the Prime Minister to support the UK remaining in the European Union (EU) because she considered that an exit would profoundly impact on Surrey and the UK.

- That remaining in the EU would protect jobs, including those jobs in tourism.
- That prices would be lower if the UK remained in EU.
- That Surrey University received EU funding and also the EU helped to protect the environment i.e. setting emission limits.
- That remaining in the EU made Surrey safer because information was shared in the fight against terrorism.

The motion was formally seconded by Mr Orrick who reserved his right to speak.

Mr Hodge moved an amendment, which was tabled at the meeting. This amendment was formally seconded by Mr Hall.

The amendment was as follows (with additional words underlined and deletions crossed through):

~~'This Council requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister to give the support of Surrey County Council to achieving his objective of remaining within the European Union as:~~

- (i) ~~jobs in Surrey are more secure with Britain remaining part of Europe — the biggest trading market in the world,~~
- (ii) ~~prices are lower than they would be if we were outside Europe — meaning households in Surrey save on average £450 a year; and~~
- (iii) ~~our police can make our streets safer by being part of a wider European force that tackles cross border crime.'~~

thanking him for keeping his election promise to establish a process that affords the residents of this County the opportunity to vote in a referendum on the key question of this Country's membership of the EU.

The amendment was not accepted by Mrs Watson and therefore Mr Hodge spoke to his amendment, making the following points:

- That it was improper to tell Surrey residents how to vote in the referendum.
- It was also inappropriate for Surrey County Council Members to politicise this issue because it was for individuals to decide.

Mr Hall seconded the amendment and reserved his right to speak.

Eleven Members also spoke to the amendment and made the following comments:

- That whatever the outcome of the referendum, there would be an impact on Surrey residents.
- That the Residents' Association / Independents had been elected to represent their constituents on local issues and therefore they would not participate in a debate on national issues and could not give a public view on this issue.
- The decision by the Prime Minister to have a referendum on whether the UK should remain in the EU was welcomed but it was a personal decision for Surrey residents.

- That Surrey's economy would be OK whatever the outcome of the referendum.
- That EU law was still supreme, if the UK remained in Europe and this new deal offered very little.
- Surrey's economy would benefit from less bureaucracy if the UK left the EU.
- That this was a political issue which divided all parties, however the elected representatives of Surrey had a duty to explain the issues and the implications to Surrey residents.
- That the EU comprised 28 countries (approximately 550 million people) and if the UK left the EU, this country would be isolated.
- A request to ask Surrey MPs Michael Gove and Philip Hammond to participate in a referendum debate at County Hall.
- That in the forthcoming local elections in May, Members would be asked for their views on this topic.
- That 23 June 2016 would be a historic date, it was a free vote and the people of the UK would decide whether or not to remain in the EU.

The amendment was put to the vote with 55 Members voting for and nine Members voting against it. There were six abstentions.

Therefore the amendment was carried and became the substantive motion.

Under Standing Order 23.1, Mr Kington moved:

'That the question be now put'

Despite objections from Mr Robert Evans who had wished to table a second amendment, the Chairman considered that there had been adequate debate and agreed to the request and the debate was wound up.

The substantive motion was put to the vote with 55 Members voting for it. Five Members voted against it and there were seven abstentions.

Therefore, it was:

RESOLVED:

This Council requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister thanking him for keeping his election promise to establish a process that affords the residents of this County the opportunity to vote in a referendum on the key question of this Country's membership of the EU.

ITEM 9(ii)

Under Standing order 12.3, the Council agreed to debate this motion.

Under Standing Order 12.1, Mrs White moved the motion which was:

'This Council requests the Cabinet to change its property investment strategy to discontinue investing in properties outside Surrey for solely investment purposes and to divert the money saved to invest in much needed capital schemes such as pedestrian crossings to enable Surrey residents including school children to cross the road safely.'

Mrs White made the following points in support of her motion:

- That her motion was about the Council's priorities.
- She referred to the Budget Monitoring report which was considered at the Cabinet meeting on 24 November 2015 that set out the Council's equity investment outside Surrey. She questioned whether the County Council should be investing in property outside the county rather than in capital schemes such as pedestrian crossings outside Surrey schools.
- That parents would continue to drive their children to school, if they considered that the highways were not safe.
- The budget was a balancing exercise, she was not against the principle of buying investment properties but it was about priorities.
- Safety outside schools was an issue for all Members and she referred to a petition received at Guildford Local Committee about the crossing in Aldershot Road.

The motion was formally seconded by Mrs Watson, who reserved her right to speak.

Twelve Members spoke on the motion, with the following points being made:

- The importance of differentiating between capital and revenue funding – it was revenue that the County Council needed and it didn't matter whether the investment was in or outside Surrey, providing it was a good investment and the Council received a good income.
- That a full report of the accident in Aldershot Road would be considered at Guildford Local Committee next week.
- That the County Council had a sound investment strategy and was planning for the future.
- The importance of sustainability, however it was important to look at social sustainability such as investing in local transport schemes, Surrey Wildlife Trust or affordable housing.
- A request for a seminar to provide Members with information on where the County Council was investing.
- That the County Council was borrowing significant sums of money for these investments and was the rate of return sufficient – these projects needed to be considered within the total overall budget envelope.
- That the County Council had been looking for revenue opportunities since 2013, with the aim to look countrywide for an income stream in order to deliver the best possible outcome for the Surrey taxpayer so that there was less reliance on Government grants.
- Support for property investment in Surrey and that funding should be prioritised for the benefit of Surrey residents.

After the debate, the motion was put to the vote, with ten Members voting for it. 59 Members voted against it and there were no abstentions.

Therefore the motion was lost.

20/16 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET [Item 10]

No notification had been received from Members wishing to raise a question or make a statement on any of the matters in the minutes by the deadline.

[Meeting ended at: 12.30pm]

Chairman

Leader of the Council's Statement

When I last spoke in this chamber at our Budget meeting, I shared with Members the difficulties we faced in setting a balanced budget for the coming year and beyond.

Our government grant had been cut dramatically despite demand pressures for essential services rising all the time. I know this was difficult for Members because we care deeply about the services we provide to Surrey residents and businesses.

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the process for their hard work in helping us to set a balanced budget and their continuing work to make it sustainable. Someone once said that 'a budget is more than just a collection of numbers, but an expression of our values and aspirations' and I really believe that is true.

In making the difficult decisions about how we balance our budget and the inevitable impact this will have on services, we will be judged on how those decisions meet our values.

We have been elected by our residents to take responsibility for services which help ensure everyone in our county can be healthy, confident and secure in their future. Part of this responsibility is taking decisions. Whether these decisions relate to our critical front line services or to longer-term projects, I passionately believe our residents should be at the heart of each and every decision we take.

This is why we are committed to our strategic priorities, of:

- Ensuring our residents' wellbeing,
- Creating an environment for economic prosperity,
- And making sure residents have a positive experience of our services.

Whether the decisions we make relate to the school places we must provide for our children, the care and support our vulnerable adults rely upon, or the roads we maintain, if our decisions are not driven by our values, we should question why we are making them at all.

Despite the increasing pressure on our budgets we must target funding to the services where it is needed most and spend wisely to make sure this Council is in the best position to tackle the significant challenges ahead. We must continue striving to make each penny work as hard as it can and stretch every pound as far as it will go. It is taxpayers' money we are spending and this Conservative administration never forgets that but delivering successful services also means we must invest in the future.

Allow me to focus on our highways and the investment this administration has made to improve the county's roads. After three years of Project Horizon, I am pleased to report that we have already successfully improved two hundred miles of Surrey's roads. Cabinet has reviewed our spending plans and I can confirm that we will go on to deliver the next two years of Project Horizon. This is a huge achievement, especially in light of all the challenges this council faces with reduced funding and rising demand for services. I believe Project Horizon has made a real difference to

our residents' everyday lives, because we listened to what local people were telling us.

We know that resident satisfaction with our roads has increased significantly since 2013.

But although residents have told me they are pleased with these improvements, many others have told me the condition of the pavements is just as important to them.

As I am speaking right now, thousands of Surrey residents are using our pavements to walk to the shops, to walk to work or to walk their children to school.

We use them day in, day out, almost without noticing, but pavements are vital infrastructure for all of us. However, we all know that this use of our pavements, along with weather and time take their toll. I have heard it from residents and officers and I have seen it myself. Our pavements are in need of repair and maintenance.

So we have listened to what our residents have told us. Despite the pressures this council faces, despite the fact money is tight; we knew we had to find a way to take action.

Today, I am announcing a major expansion of Project Horizon to undertake this vital restoration programme of Surrey's pavements. Over the next five to six years we will invest up to £20m into this essential programme.

Highways teams have spent the past year surveying our pavements so we can target high priority areas where they are most in need of improvement and where they are well-used, particularly by more vulnerable members of our communities. This will include town and village centres, as well as areas around schools, health centres and hospitals. The programme will start with the pavements most in need of attention and local committees will be asked to meet urgently to approve the plans drawn up by Highways for their local areas.

Over the next year, we will invest up to £6m to renew around 75 miles of pavement throughout Surrey. We will work with you – as members – and our boroughs and districts as ONE TEAM, to make a real difference for the people of Surrey.

Local Committees will be directly involved in this programme, signing off local plans so that local people are at the heart of this programme to make sure we get it right. Surrey residents and businesses can have confidence that despite the significant financial demand-led pressures on their County Council, this Conservative administration will take the brave decision to invest in their local communities.

This Conservative administration is committed to Surrey's future, committed to delivering value for money for Surrey residents, and committed to listening to our residents to improve our services. These commitments are an expression of our values and aspirations for Surrey.

David Hodge
Leader of the Council
15 March 2016

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2016

**QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF STANDING ORDER 10.1**

MR PETER MARTIN, DEPUTY LEADER

(1) MR ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK:

Wandsworth, Hillingdon, Richmond and Windsor & Maidenhead Councils have all threatened to sue HM government if plans for a third runway at Heathrow Airport are given approval.

Bearing in mind the close links between these Conservative controlled councils and Surrey CC, (three of which border the county) what dialogue has taken place with these colleagues and is Surrey supporting their action?

Reply:

Surrey County Council has not been in dialogue with these Councils over their threat to instigate a legal challenge should the Government decide on a third runway at Heathrow Airport. This Council's position on airport expansion remains that resolved by the full Council on 16 July 2013.

MRS HELYN CLACK, CABINET MEMBER FOR WELLBEING AND HEALTH

(2) MRS HELENA WINDSOR (GODSTONE) TO ASK:

Will Surrey County Council adopt the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter to support people in Surrey with motor neurone disease and their carers?

Through its partnership with the NHS, social care and user representatives, Surrey's Health and Wellbeing Board is ideally placed to ensure integration across the agencies to deliver the five points of the MND Charter which are:

- The right to an early diagnosis and information.
- The right to access quality care and treatments
- The right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect
- The right to maximise their quality of life
- Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.

Reply:

Motor Neurone Disease is a fatal and rapidly progressing neurological condition that has no cure. People suffering from this disease can be unable to move or talk and eventually unable to breathe. In 2013 it was estimated that approximately 3749 people in England were suffering from the condition; 81 of those in Surrey.

The County Council fully supports the aims of the Charter and recognises that it represents principles of care and support that would equally apply to people suffering from different complex conditions.

At the recent Conservative Councillors Conference, I met with a representative of the MND Association and expressed my own support.

There are some areas of the Charter which are more directly within the influence of our partner organisations, such as the health service and District and Borough Councils. However, all five areas of the Charter are consistent with the way that the Council seeks to work with its partners to support Surrey residents in a personalised, dignified way, that helps people to experience the best quality of life possible.

I would like to recommend to the Council that it signs up to the Charter in its own right and encourages Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to do the same.

MRS LINDA KEMENY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS, SKILLS AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

(3) MR CHRIS TOWNSEND (ASHTREAD) TO ASK:

The leadership roles have been reviewed to ensure clear lines of accountability and focus is brought to improving our practice for children, young people and families.

Apparently there will be three senior leadership posts driving strategic change with partners: Assistant Director for Children's Services, Assistant Director for Commissioning and Prevention and an Assistant Director with a focus on Schools and Learning.

However, at the last meeting of the Social Care Services Board we were told that the Assistant Director for Commissioning and Prevention was now to include Early Help, becoming Assistant Director for Early Help and Commissioning and Prevention.

These do not sit easily together, therefore please could this change be explained and the justification for such a change?

Reply:

The Assistant Director, Commissioning and Prevention is a new role in the Children Schools and Families leadership team designed to increase our capacity to transform and create public value. The role will bring together those staff from across the Directorate that support the commissioning process and will lead on strengthening this area. It will also bring together and transform a range of services that provide support and early help to children, young people and their families that do not meet a social care threshold.

We will be working with partners to develop a cohesive and collaborative early help offer for children, young people and families which is in many cases already commissioned from other organisations and in doing so we will look to jointly commission services wherever that makes sense.

This role will focus on that partnership, working to ensure that our commissioning strategies deliver integrated services that wrap around children providing a continuum of help and support to respond to the different levels of need and risk.

MR MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE, WELLBEING AND INDEPENDENCE

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

The County Council has recently written to voluntary organisations across Surrey in connection with an Adult Social Care Grant and Contract Review with the aim of reducing funding to voluntary organisations in order to reduce costs.

- What is the total saving that is being sought from funding reductions to voluntary organisations?
- What are the criteria for reducing grants and contracts to individual voluntary organisations?
- What will the impact of the funding reductions to voluntary organisations have on savings to be achieved from the Family Friends and Community programme?

Reply:

What is the total saving that is being sought from funding reductions to voluntary organisations?

The Adult Social Care Directorate is seeking to deliver £55 million of savings in 2016/17. As part of this work the Directorate aims to save £5.8 million in 2016/17 (and £11.6 million by 2020/21) through maximising the value of its grants and contracts. The Directorate holds grants and contracts with a range of organisations across the private, voluntary and public sectors. The decision to reduce grant or contract funding to particular organisations, including voluntary organisations, will be made on a case by case basis, in consultation with CCG partners where appropriate.

What are the criteria for reducing grants and contracts to individual voluntary organisations?

The decision to reduce grant or contract funding to particular organisations, including voluntary organisations, will be made on a case by case basis against pre-defined criteria. The criteria include:

- The purpose of the grant or contract funding and whether it directly supports the delivery of statutory duties and/or directorate, corporate or national strategies
- Whether the scheme is meeting its intended purpose
- The existence and availability of other similar schemes or services
- The impact of changing grant or contract funding on Surrey residents, including carers and people with protected characteristics
- The impact of changing grant or contract funding on the provider organisation

- The impact of changing grant or contract funding on other services and projects, including the Family, Friends and Community programme, Surrey County Council's frontline services, and our partners' services.

The review process will comply with the Surrey Compact agreement, so that voluntary, community and faith sector organisations have the opportunity to be engaged in the process and have sufficient opportunity to respond to reductions in grant and contract funding. The Council will honour all current agreed contract notice periods.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken on the 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Plan which included a consideration of the impacts for residents and service users with protected characteristics for the 'Maximise value of contracts and grants' saving.

What will the impact of the funding reductions to voluntary organisations have on savings to be achieved from the Family Friends and Community programme?

One of the criteria for reviewing the funding for a particular grant or contract is to assess the impact it would have on the Family Friends and Community programme. The review process will encourage voluntary, community and faith sector providers to look for more creative responses which meet local priorities, which could include family, friends and community support networks. Separate work is underway to make Surrey's business resources available to the voluntary, community and faith sector through corporate social responsibility, which will help to alleviate the impact of grant and contract funding reductions on voluntary organisations and the people they serve.

LINDA KEMENY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS, SKILLS AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

(5) MR IAN BEARDSMORE (SUNBURY COMMON AND ASHFORD COMMON) TO ASK:

A recent announcement by Education Secretary, Nicky Morgan, makes it clear that the Government is pushing ahead with a consultation about centralised school funding cutting out Local Authority involvement entirely.

Will Surrey County Council be responding to this consultation and if so, what will be the general stance that will be taken?

Can you ensure that I receive a copy of the County Council's response as soon as it is sent?

Reply:

I can confirm that Surrey County Council will be responding to the consultation on the proposed national funding formula for schools.

There was a clear need to review the current system of funding local authorities for their schools. The system was outdated, needs based data had not been updated for over 10 years, and there were unacceptable differences in the level of funding provided to local authorities, based on historic decisions.

We are unable to assess the financial impact on Surrey schools of a centralised national formula which allocates funding to individual school level, as details of the formula and values will not be published until the summer. However, a new national formula, without additional pump-priming and at a time of rising costs for schools, will create significant winners and losers. Local authorities, with many years experience of managing local schools funding formulae are well placed to recognise local pressures and in conjunction with their Schools Forums are able to target funding appropriately to ensure the viability of their schools. The Council will work with its schools over the next two years to manage the transition and to seek to minimise disruption.

We will also continue to lobby DfE Ministers and Surrey MPs to ensure we have a fair funding outcome for our schools. There is likely to be a series of responses to the consultation which is being published in sections, but I will be happy to keep all Members updated with responses as they are submitted.

MR JOHN FUREY, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND FLOODING

(6) MR STEPHEN COOKSEY (DORKING SOUTH AND THE HOLMWOODS) TO ASK:

The Footway Network Survey in 2013 identified 1,650 kilometres of footway as functionally or structurally impaired and since that time very little work has been carried out on reconstruction or repair. Would the Cabinet Member responsible for Highways please indicate the amount of funding being made available for repair and reconstruction in the 2016-17 budget, the method by which this will be allocated and the criteria on which the final allocation will be based?

Reply:

I will provide a verbal response to the question on the day.

MR DAVID HODGE, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

(7) MR EBER KINGTON (EWELL COURT, AURIOL AND CUDDINGTON) TO ASK:

I am sure Mr Hodge is aware of the decision taken by the Council Overview Board to review the process for the scrutiny of Directorate spending plans and efficiency savings in the lead up to the 2016/2017 Budget Meeting. In several ways that process was unsatisfactory and ineffective with the initial scrutiny work starting too late in the budgetary process and information being provided in a format that did not always support effective scrutiny.

Any such scrutiny review will require the full and unqualified support of Mr Hodge and the Cabinet if witnesses are to attend, relevant information provided and recommended changes are to be implemented. Will he give a commitment to supporting this work so that for 2017/2018 this Council has a budget scrutiny process that commands support and confidence across all Members of the Council?

Reply:

I am and remain committed to supporting the important role of the scrutiny process in this Council.

MR JOHN FUREY, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND FLOODING

**(8) MR STEPHEN COOKSEY (DORKING SOUTH AND THE HOLMWOODS)
TO ASK:
2ND question**

A general cause for concern across the county is the lack of co-ordination between District and Borough Councils which are responsible for street cleaning and the County Council which is responsible for gully emptying and cleaning .This is particularly important when street cleaning does not follow gully cleaning and material left as a consequence of gully cleaning is swept back into gullies because it is not picked up quickly in a subsequent street cleaning exercise. Would the Cabinet Member responsible for Highways please indicate whether the County Council has any plans to improve co-ordination with Districts and Boroughs to prevent this happening in future?

Reply:

The County Council is always keen to work with District and Borough Councils to improve services to our residents.

Street cleansing is an important function and the more frequent the sweeping, the less opportunity for detritus to build up in the road channel and enter into a gully. As a general rule, once a gully has been cleaned all spoil is taken off site, there should not be anything left in the road channel from the cleansing process.

During the autumn, sudden leaf fall can result in numerous gullies being temporarily obstructed. It is accepted that the Districts and Boroughs target their cleansing regimes to minimise this but there will be occasions when the sheer number of leaves (such as after heavy winds) makes this very challenging.

In recent years, County Council officers have managed a successful collaboration forum known as a "Steetscene group". This considers operational matters such as coordination. Officer representatives are invited from all Districts and Boroughs and there has been some examples of good joint working. Should there be a specific local concern the County Council would be pleased to discuss with the relevant District Council to see what improvements can be made.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Peter Martin

PORTFOLIO: Economic Prosperity

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Visitor Economy and Visit Surrey Update

The County Council has been looking at how the value of the visitor economy in the county can be increased and the mechanisms in place to help achieve it. One of the key areas has been working with Visit Surrey.

Visit Surrey

Visit Surrey is a Community Interest Company set up in 2010 following the demise of regionally funded tourist boards. Visit Surrey is the Destination Management Organisation for the County, with the principal aim of promoting and supporting Surrey's visitor economy.

Surrey County Council work with Visit Surrey

Visit Surrey identified that in order for them to continue to support and grow the visitor economy they needed a new website. Alongside the website, we have been working with Visit Surrey on a new Business Plan and associated arrangements. Our work with Visit Surrey includes:

- Producing a new Business Plan and Action Plan for Visit Surrey to reflect the investment plan for the ongoing development of the website and the opportunities arising from increased income generation such as strategic marketing activities.
- The creation of new service level agreements with the districts and boroughs for their work with Visit Surrey.
- The development of a new website that will allow Visit Surrey to showcase the county to its full potential and entice visitors. It has being designed to allow Visit Surrey to work in a tailored fashion with individual partners. The new website went live at the start of February 2016.

NAME: Mike Goodman

PORTFOLIO: Environment and Planning

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Climate Local

Following sign up to Climate Local in February, officers are now focusing on developing an action plan, alongside other Surrey Councils, with a view to getting sign off by Cabinet in September 2016. The emerging focus is on:

- Procurement
- Schools engagement – education and buildings
- Energy consumption and renewable energy
- Adaptation and supporting vulnerable people
- Transport

Local Transport Review

We are on track to deliver the MTFP a saving of £2M from the Local Transport Review:

Year 1

- Following approval by Cabinet on 23 June, the agreed changes to local bus services were implemented at the beginning of September 2015, delivering a saving of £990K per year.

Year 2

- The consultation launched on 20 January and will run until 14 March, with a wide range of stakeholder events to help shape the final proposals. Some 1,500 replies have been received to date, if all the proposals are implemented a full year saving of £600k will be delivered.

Surrey County Council/Surrey Wildlife Trust Agreement

SCC and Surrey Wildlife Trust have agreed a way forward for the long term Agreement to manage the countryside estate. Proposals for implementing the changes will be recommended to Cabinet in March.

Fundamental to the future of the Countryside Estate is ensuring that the opportunities are taken to reduce costs and generate income, ensuring that the Estate is still managed for conservation, landscape and access. This will include making improvements to facilities at Newlands Corner near Guildford, where proposals are currently being presented to the public and key stakeholders. The Rural Statement was launched by Sally Marks on 10 March. This outlines the vision for our rural areas and calls on a jointed up approach in developing actions.

Waste

- Options for making savings to CRCs were agreed by Cabinet on 24 November 2015 and the EPEH Board received a presentation on 26 January 2016. Resulted in reduced opening hours at all sites and reduced opening days at 5 sites to come into effect from 1 April 2016. This has been publicised from 1 March 2016.

- A draft strategy discussion document to combat fly tipping has been produced by a small working group of district boroughs, county council officers and other agencies.
- The food waste intervention (stickers on bins) and doorstep engagement projects are now completed. Initial indications show the food waste intervention is having a significant impact with an increase in tonnage of 20% compared to last year, providing environmental and financial benefits.

NAME: Richard Walsh
PORTFOLIO: Localities and Community Wellbeing
MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Registration Services

From a happy couple after their wedding day conducted at Guildford Registry Office

Dear everyone at Artington house,

Thank you all so much for everything you did for us on the ceremony day. It was all so very overwhelming and emotional that it has taken a few days to reflect on what a beautiful service it was.

You ladies really did make our day, made us all feel so welcome and everything rolled and flowed smoothly.

Everyone spoke so highly of you all and said how respectful and professional you all were.

We would like to personally thank everyone involved in our ceremony on the 5 March and truly have you all to thank for such a memorable and happy day.

You should all be very proud of yourselves and the team you have.

Thank you again and kind regards,

Trading Standards

The new joint Trading Standards service, created in partnership with Buckinghamshire in April 2015 is already delivering excellent results for residents and local businesses. Already in the first year of our joint operation we have:

- Successfully achieved all our income generation and savings targets
- Doubled the number of our Primary Authority Partnerships from 40 to 80.
- Increased the number of trading standards approved traders from 518 to 2374
- Stopped rogue traders operating in both counties - 14 years in prison sentences have been given to rogue traders and money launderers prosecuted by the Service.
- Achieved our biggest ever recovery of criminal assets - rogue traders forfeited £1.4M of criminal assets, of which we will receive £200,000 to help tackle local crime priorities
- Increased the savings achieved for residents by 40%

The joint service continues to build on its successful foundation.

- In January the joint service was highlighted in the LGA report on the future of Trading Standards service delivery as a good model for the future of service delivery nationally.
- In February the service was shortlisted in the IESE Improvement and Efficiency awards and awarded silver in two categories for their successful partnership which has made big efficiency savings and also provides a model for the future of the service delivery in this sector.

Libraries

Merstham's new community hub

This is now under construction in Portland Drive and due to be completed in mid July. This will contain a new Merstham library and facilities for youth work along with other local organisations and has been developed with close involvement of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. The services involved are now working together to develop the vision of what they want to deliver for the residents of Merstham and make this a true community hub.

Book borrowing

Surrey libraries book borrowing is holding up well against a national trend of decline in borrowing. The service has a 6.75% market share of all UK library book issues.

Recorded UK library loans were down last year by -5.9% but Surrey libraries loans were only down by -0.5% in comparison, a year which included periods of closure in several libraries due to maintenance works. The issues of children's non-fiction stock have seen a 14% increase with 36,605 more books borrowed in 2014-15.

NAME: Clare Curran

PORTFOLIO: Children and Families Wellbeing

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Children's Improvement Plan

Through January and February 2016 we completed a stock take and review of progress, including discussions at the Council's Improvement Board and with the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofsted.

The review confirmed we are making some steady progress in implementing the changes set out in our Improvement Plan – and these changes are beginning to improve services for children, young people and families.

We also know there is much more to do. Firstly, it is essential we have a close understanding of both the strengths of our practice and the areas in need of improvement. Changes to quality assurance processes have started to enable this but further work is planned, including gaining a better understanding from children and families of their experience of our support and its impact on their lives.

Secondly, to improve practice we need the right numbers of qualified and experienced staff, supported with the right training and tools. A new online "Safer Surrey practice guide" has been developed by staff and will be launched shortly – it provides tools and best practice examples, and is being embedded into an enhanced training offer for staff. Over the coming months there will be a further push to improve recruitment and retention as despite efforts to date this remains a significant challenge.

Underpinning all of the improvement work are changes in leadership and management roles and culture. The Deputy Chief Executive has started this important work across Children's, Schools and Families and this will continue over the coming months.

We can only successfully improve children's services by working together as "one team" across the council, with all our partners, and with the children, young people and families we support. I will continue to focus on this and welcome input from fellow Members. In particular, the independent training for Members scrutinising Children's Services (held on 29 February 2016) provides a foundation for further strengthening the important role of scrutiny in this area.

As well as focusing on where further improvement is required, it is also important to reflect on positive examples of progress so we can build on these. For example, evidence from audits of social workers knowing the children they work with well, shortening the time taken to complete care proceedings, and improved provision of stable places for looked after children to live.

The Children's Improvement Plan will continue to be delivered as one part of the wider portfolio of change in Children, Schools and Families which is aligned to the Public Value Transformation programme and also includes:

- Transforming services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Strengthening the county's approach to prevention and early help with partners including developing an enhanced Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.
- Making sure the Council's role in education and skills delivers public value through effective partnerships.

NAME: John Furey

PORTFOLIO: Highways, Transport and Flooding

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

River Thames Scheme

The county council continues to take an active role supporting the progress of the River Thames Scheme. To remind Members the River Thames Scheme is a large programme that will reduce flood risk to all communities between Datchet and Teddington. This includes: Egham, Staines, Chertsey, Shepperton, Weybridge, Sunbury, Molesey. We are working with the Environment Agency, the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Elmbridge Borough Council, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Runnymede Borough Council, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Spelthorne Borough Council and Thames Water to develop the scheme.

The scheme consists of:

- Major engineering work to construct a new flood channel between 30 to 60 metres wide and 17 kilometres long, built in three sections
- Improving the flow capacity of three existing weirs on the River Thames
- Installing property level products for up to 1,200 homes to make them more resistant to flooding
- Improving the multi-agency flood incident response
- Creating over 40 hectares of wildlife habitat
- Working with communities to raise flood awareness and support them in flood preparedness, response and recovery.

Our current priority is to identify the beneficiaries of the scheme more accurately and additional sources of funding so that a Strategic Outline Business Case can be submitted to the Environment Agency Board later this year.

Kier Contract

The County Council has approved a four year extension to the Kier contract which will take it up to April 2021. Officers are in the process of finalising the contract terms which will result in some key improvements including:

- Better value for money,
- Improved services for residents,
- A focus on apprenticeships and the development of training opportunities
- Increased opportunities for local suppliers to bid for work.

Operation Horizon

The third year of Operation Horizon is almost complete and by the end of March 2016, approximately 360km of roads will have been resurfaced, which is the distance from London to Liverpool.

Since the start of Horizon we have seen the percentage of "red" sections of road on the network reduce from 17% to 13% and we have seen marked improvement in customer satisfaction ratings relating to road condition and road works.

Other benefits of Horizon include;

- Negotiations with the supply chain alongside value engineering have resulted in 12% cost savings
- New ways of dealing with hazardous tar have resulted cost for tar remediation reducing from £160 per tonne to £60 per tonne
- 95% of schemes have a 10 year guarantee
- Drainage works have been completed as part of Horizon to provide more robust schemes
- Lessons have been learnt which will be used when creating long term programmes for other highway assets

NAME: Melville Few

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

2016/17 demand on service expected to continue rising

- Demand on the service year to date has seen a growth of 6.8% and is not expected to slow any time in the future. In January alone 141 new cases were recorded.
- Many expected that the additional Council Tax precept of 2% amounting to approximately £11.8m would suffice to cover this growth. However, extrapolating the current growth in demand experienced this year of 6.8% will require additional funding in the range of £25m for the next financial year

2016/17 Better Care fund (BCF)

- The BCF is one element of the wider NHS strategic planning arrangements set out to deliver the NHS Five Year Forward View, a shared vision for the future of the NHS based around the new models of care and description of how the health service needs to change over the next five years if it is to close the widening gaps in the health of the population, quality of care and the funding of services.
- The legal framework for the Better Care Fund requires that in each CCG area the Fund is transferred into one or more pooled budgets (established under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006) and that plans are approved by NHS England in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- NHS England have set out conditions to the payment of the Better Care Fund and the framework remains broadly in line with the current year with eight conditions local areas will need to meet through the planning process in order to access the funding.

There are two integration programmes which have begun:

- The Integrated reablement unit at East Surrey Hospital (SASH) is now open and is a co-led project between SCC ASC, ESCCG and SASH. The unit is on the SASH campus and was prepared for use by the trust and then passed over to ASC and the CCG. The staffing team running the unit are made up of ASC reablement staff and community provider staff who work in an integrated staffing team.
- In Surrey Heath the service has already Integrated Care Teams (ICTs) managed by the CCG in three hubs. Community Mental Health, Adult Social Care and Community Nursing staff work alongside each other in integrated care teams with shared case
- A further integration pilot will be commenced with NWS CCG in the spring 2016 following the opening of the integrated health hubs.

Charging policy consultation

In light of the Care Act 2014 which came into effect from April 2015, it is necessary for the charging policies currently in force to be updated to reflect the changes laid out in the act.

The consultation will be available until December 2014 with the recommendations arising being presented to Cabinet for decision at the February 2015 meeting.

NAME: Linda Kemeny

PORTFOLIO: Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Transforming Services for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

To update Members since my October report, the SEND 2020 Programme continues to be developed and activity remains focused on improving outcomes for Children and young people with SEND. The work is organised within four main workstreams, transforming the customer experience, re-building the system around the customer, reshaping the SEND local offer, and developing inclusive practice.

The SEND overarching one-page strategy has been approved by the SEND Partnership Board, and this will soon be underpinned by a more detailed Development Plan to be published later this month. The Corporate Strategy for 2016-21 also includes a clear strategic goal to improve satisfaction of families of children with special education needs and disabilities with the support they receive.

The SEND 2020 Programme is a partnership involving education, health and social care colleagues across the 0 –25 age range. Working with families and young people, co-producing solutions and the principles of public value are at the heart of this work. We are running a programme of engagement events through the year to take the programme forward. This recently included a Schools Forum Workshop where a series of partnership events was agreed to examine the impact of the current Schools Funding Consultation and develop solutions based on the anticipated available funding.

A Member Seminar has been booked for 25 April 2016 with a focus on the SEND 2020 programme, and a new Joint Area Inspection Framework (Ofsted/CQC) is anticipated to commence in May 2016, following which Surrey must be ready for such an SEND inspection. A joint scrutiny workshop is proposed over the coming months in addition to the Scrutiny Board meetings.

In relation to progress and improvements in the SEND system, a free special school bid to the DfE was supported by SCC in the March 2016 bidding round and it is anticipated that two further special school bids will be developed and submitted in October 2016. The new CAMHS contract has expanded provision for children and adolescents. The new contract takes a proactive early help approach to support for our children and young people, providing more immediate access particularly for looked after children. These new services will come on stream from 1 April 2016.

Finally, I would highlight that, within the 'developing inclusive practice' workstream, 53 pilot schools have been selected to develop their use of an Index for Inclusion to help support staff identify and remove barriers to learning for children with special needs in mainstream schools. There has been very keen interest from schools in this pilot and we anticipate all schools will participate in the programme over a two year period.

NAME: Helyn Clack

PORTFOLIO: Wellbeing and Health

MEETING DATE: 15 March 2016

Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health & Wellbeing Board has agreed changes to Surrey's Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy including revisions to its performance indicators. Revisions to the strategy and performance indicators are due to be completed by the end of March.

Following a workshop on asset-based approaches, representatives of the Board are working together with SFRS to explore how Safe and Well visits can be utilised to promote wellbeing among Surrey residents further integrating health and social care.

The Board has contacted all 11 Borough and District Councils requesting feedback on both the children and adults annual safeguarding reports. The Co-Chairs have also contacted the Leader of each District and Borough highlighting the role that mental health champions play in promoting awareness of mental health issues.

The Board held a successful workshop in February on Devolution as well as on health & social care integration and the Better Care Fund (BCF). The first version of the BCF plan 2016/17 was submitted on 2 March 2016.

Welfare Reform

With Universal Credit now live in Surrey and the reduction of the Benefit Cap from Autumn 2016, I am pleased to have been appointed as the Cabinet lead for welfare reform, recognising the importance of this issue for residents and the impact on our services. I have already had discussions with the new Chair of Surrey Citizens Advice to understand the important role Citizens Advice plays supporting residents and to look at how we can deepen the joint working that already exists with the County Council. I look forward to meeting the Board of Citizens Advice Surrey to continue these discussions.

Public Health

Childhood obesity

The Tier 2 child / young person and family weight management tender was published in February 2016. Tier 2 is a community based, lifestyle, weight management intervention for children and young people who are overweight or obese. Approval to award will be sought by PRG on 19 April 2016 and by the Leader and Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Health on 11 May 2016. The contract will commence on 12 September 2016 at the beginning of the new academic year.

Public Health has been working with partners and Public Health England (PHE) on two childhood obesity projects. The first is the pilot of the PHE child obesity prioritisation toolkit. Three meetings have been held with local partners to work through the steps in the toolkit. Priorities identified in this process, along with the new national child obesity strategy, will form the basis for the draft Surrey Child and Family Healthy Weight strategy. The second PHE project involves revising the Surrey Eat Out Eat Well award to meet Government Buying Standards for food and catering and PHE catering guidance. The focus of the pilot is on local authority and

leisure centres catering, however the award will continue to be offered to both public and private sector catering establishments offering food to children and adults aged 5-65 years.

Sexual health

Surrey's Sexual Health Needs Assessment has been published and is available on the Surrey-i website. The needs assessment gives us an up to date picture of sexual health across Surrey and will inform the re-commissioning of our sexual health services.

Preparation for the re-commissioning of Surrey's sexual health services continues. A concept day for the integrated service took place in December. The event was well attended and the discussion and feedback will feed into the delivery model design and writing of the service specification. The service will be going out to tender in May with the new contract commencing in April 2017.

Smoking & Tobacco Control

The new stop smoking provider Quit 51 went live on 1 February. The service has already increased clinic provision across the county and is engaging with GPs, pharmacies and other partners to increase stop smoking support available.

The service has specific targets around increasing the numbers of smokers making successful quit attempts and also targeting priority groups, such as people with mental health issues, pregnant women and young people.

Public Health are working with partners to develop a new Tobacco Control Strategy that will be launched later this year along with a reorganisation of the Tobacco Control Alliance.

An example of Tobacco Control in action is the Smokefree play areas (voluntary smoking ban) which will be launched in district and borough children's play areas on Wednesday 9 March coinciding with national No Smoking Day. Local primary school children created designs that have been turned into signage and installed in play areas.

Europe

As the LEP channelled European Funding programmes are finally rolling out in earnest, we are beginning see project applications with a Surrey dimension being approved at the preliminary stage on measures such as business support, the woodlands economy and tourism. Despite the bureaucratic hurdles and continuing and very real problems with central Government management capacity we are beginning to see the money flowing and delivery happening in large part due to the prompting and shaping of local committee members such as myself. Planned provision now includes an element of "technical assistance" which should be approved very soon now and will allow us to claim back some of the costs of helping bids to be developed. PURPLE continues to fight the corner in Brussels and elsewhere for those areas that are neither fully urbanised nor purely rural. As President, my role in giving leadership to the group remains highly visible and has attracted invitations to speak in the Netherlands and Austria over the coming months. PURPLE also continues to pursue revenue project funding in areas such as spatial planning and environmental management, a process strongly encouraged and directed by myself and fellow political representatives sitting on the PURPLE Board which I chair.

Name: Denise Le Gal

Portfolio : Business Services and Resident Experience

Meeting Date: 15 March 2016

The development of the Orbis Partnership is progressing well and I can confirm that the Inter Authority Agreement that forms the legal basis to the Partnership has been agreed by both ESCC and SCC following resolution by the respective Cabinets. The Inter Authority Agreement sets out the terms on which these functions will be discharged and puts in place a framework for the delivery of the Services within Orbis.

I can also confirm that following Brighton and Hove City Council's Policy and Resources Committee to recommend that Brighton join the Orbis Partnership and ratification of this decision at their full Council.

Officers are currently working on a joint timeline of activities for the due diligence process together with a plan of engagement of colleagues and stakeholders in Brighton and Hove.