

CABINET

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 26 September 2017 and will take effect on 04/10/2017 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered.

CALL-IN DEADLINE: 03/10/17.

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, 26 September 2017 considered the following matters and resolved:

Members' Questions (Item 4a)

Questions were received from Mrs Hazel Watson and Mr Jonathan Essex. Responses to these can be found at Appendix 1.

- **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item 4b)**

A question was received from the Waverley Tenants Panel and a response is attached at Appendix 2.

- **PETITIONS (Item 4c)**

Three petitions had been received on the following matters:

- 'Shaping Surrey's Community Recycling Centres 2017' (526 signatures received)
- 'Save Surrey's Tips' (3245 signatures received)
- 'Stop their plans to cut fire and rescue cover in Spelthorne by 50%' (1355 signatures received)

Responses to these can be found at Appendix 3.

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

Reports were received from the Environment and Infrastructure Select Committee in relation to Community Recycling Centres and the Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Surrey Business Rates Retention Pilot. Responses to these can be found at Appendix 4.

- **PROPOSAL FOR THE FUTURE FUNDING OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT SERVICES (Item 6)**

RESOLVED:

The Cabinet agreed that:

1. Surrey County Council will no longer provide funding for Housing Related

2. Support for people with learning, physical and sensory disabilities and services for older people; and
2. That Surrey County Council will continue to fund Housing Related Support for the socially excluded - those with mental health issues, those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, ex-offenders and the gypsy and traveller community.

Reasons for decisions

The recommendation to cease Housing Related Support funding for older people and people with disabilities is made for the following reasons:

1. It will deliver an estimated saving of £2.8m (70% of the budget) based on the planning assumption that 30% of the budget will be needed in locality teams to meet an increase in demand from eligible needs of residents.
2. It will cease any dual funding, where Surrey County Council is funding a care package and Housing Related Support for an individual, and will mean we assess people based on their current need.
3. Local information and support is available to residents in their communities and online should they need to find out about care, community and health information and support available.
4. Evidence obtained from all other local authorities that were able to provide benchmarking information demonstrates they have already ceased and/or remodelled provision.
5. Residents will be able to ask for an assessment; if they have eligible needs they will receive a personal budget.
6. It is aligned with the Council's Family, Friends and Communities approach to maintaining wellbeing and independence.

The recommendation to continue funding Housing Related Support services for socially excluded and disadvantaged people is made for the following reasons:

1. In November 2016, Cabinet agreed housing related support services for socially excluded groups should be protected.
2. A co-designed, transparent approach has been taken with district and borough colleagues, providers and wider stakeholders.
3. The recommendation will deliver a saving of £0.9m (20% of budget) to be delivered with the minimum impact on people who use services and carers.

[The decisions on this item are subject to call in by the Adults and Health Select Committee]

- **CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO SURREY'S COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRES (COST REDUCTIONS) (Item 7)**

RESOLVED:

The Cabinet agreed that:

1. That a strategic network of CRCs will remain open for seven days a week. Other sites will be open at specified times as per the tabled document listing proposed CRC opening times.
2. That the four CRCs at Bagshot, Cranleigh, Dorking and Warlingham remain open in light of the views submitted in the public consultation. Details of the proposed times of operation will be tabled at the Cabinet meeting;
3. That the free daily allowance of chargeable waste from the construction, alteration or repair of homes and gardens such as rubble, plasterboard and soil is stopped from December 2017, as set out in paragraphs 27 to 28 of the submitted report;
4. vans and trailers are excluded from CRCs at Bagshot, Caterham, Cranleigh, Dorking, Farnham and Warlingham from December 2017 as set out in paragraphs 29 to 31 of the submitted report;
5. Residents from Bracknell Forest and Wokingham are excluded from Camberley, and that the Strategic Director, Environment & Infrastructure in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning agrees any further restrictions on non-Surrey residents using the sites in Camberley and Farnham following further discussions with Hampshire County Council, as set out in paragraphs 32 to 35 of the submitted report.
6. Cabinet supports maximising the use of all CRC sites and achieving the best public value and that work continues to progress further efficiency measures at CRCs for example as stated in paragraphs 36 to 37 of the submitted report.
7. the Surrey Waste Partnership is supported to promote the better use of kerbside services and other waste disposal services.

Reasons for decisions

At present there is spare capacity at the CRC network because of a reduction in throughput due to the previous changes. An adequate service can be retained if the above additional efficiency measures are implemented that will achieve an estimated cost reduction in a full year of £1.08 - £1.56 million. **Table 3** in paragraph 43 gives a breakdown by efficiency measure. These recommendations take note of the views expressed in the public consultation and, the impact to the public (including those with protected characteristics) and the environment. If these recommendations are introduced it will reduce costs and provide better value for money for the Surrey taxpayer, whilst still maintaining a comprehensive service that supports the strategic aims of increasing recycling and reducing landfill, and meets its legal requirements as a Waste Disposal Authority.

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

- **THOMAS KNYVETT COLLEGE, ASHFORD - SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 8)**

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the agreement of the detailed financial information for the expansion, as set out in submitted Part 2 report, the business case for the provision of accommodation sufficient to enable two additional forms of entry (300

places) at Thomas Knyvett College be approved.

Reasons for decisions

The proposal supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide necessary school places to meet the needs of the population in Spelthorne Borough by providing Year 7 places when and where they are needed.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **DE STAFFORD SCHOOL, CATERHAM - SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 9)**

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the agreement of the detailed financial information for the expansion set out in the submitted Part 2 report, the business case for the provision of an additional 1 Form of Entry (30 places per year) providing, in total, 150 secondary places at De Stafford School from September 2018, be approved.

Reasons for decisions

The proposal supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide necessary school places, relative to demand.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **ST MARY'S OXTED CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL - SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 10)**

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the agreement of the detailed financial information for the expansion set out in the submitted Part 2 report, the business case for the provision of an additional one Form of Entry worth of junior places in Oxted & Limpsfield be approved.

Reasons for decisions

The proposal supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide necessary school places, relative to demand.

[The decisions on this item are subject to call in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **SURREY BUSINESS RATES RETENTION PILOT 2018/19 (Item 11)**

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet agreed the following:

- i. To develop a joint application with the eleven boroughs and districts for Surrey to be a pilot for the 2018/19 100% Business Rates retention Scheme

- ii. That the council understand and agree that the pilot may not include a 'no detriment' clause
- iii. To note that the Leader, in consultation with the Chief Executive and Director of Finance, will take the final decision to submit an application for a Surrey wide pilot involving the county council and eleven borough and districts councils
- iv. That Surrey County Council is the lead authority for this pilot.

Reasons for decisions

The opportunity to become a pilot authority for the 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme aligns with the council's strategy of seeking to influence the development of the local government finance system and to nurture partnership working. In addition, if successful, being a pilot will enable local retention of all business rate growth within the county for use to assist in ensuring financial stability and sustainability as well as to invest in economic prosperity.

[The decisions on this item are subject to call in by the Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee]

- **MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT (Item 12)**

RESOLVED:

That the following be noted:

1. Forecast revenue budget outturn for 2017/18, is £21m overspend (paragraph 1 of the submitted report). This includes:
 - £9m savings to be identified,
 - £12m savings considered unachievable in 2017/18,
 - £11m service demand pressures
 - £11m underspends and additional income.
2. Significant risks to the revenue budget (paragraphs 38 to 42) could add £13m to the forecast overspend:
 - £4m in Adult Social Care
 - £8m in Children, Schools & Families and
 - £1m in Place Development & Waste
3. Forecast planned savings for 2017/18 total £83m against £95m agreed savings and £104m target (paragraph 43 of the submitted report).
4. The Section 151 Officer's commentary and the Monitoring Officer's Legal Implications commentary in paragraphs 15 to 18 of the main budget monitoring report to Cabinet that the council has a duty to ensure its expenditure does not exceed resources available and move towards a sustainable budget for future years.

5. Cabinet will receive a recovery plan for consideration in October 2017.

The following be approved:

6. £18,000 draw down of Highways & Transport's capital carry forward from 2016/17 (paragraphs 60 to 62 of the submitted report).
7. £2.9m amendments to schools' devolved capital budgets (paragraphs 63 to 66 of the submitted report).

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 are subject to call in by the Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee]

- **TRANSFER OF EMPLOYMENT OF CORONER'S OFFICE STAFF FROM SURREY POLICE TO SCC (Item 13)**

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet agreed:

1. to the proposed transfer of staff and noted the associated MTFP pressures that will commence in 2019-20; and
2. that Surrey County Council would agree and document future service levels and mutual obligations in a Service Level Agreement or mutual Agreements with Surrey Police and the Senior Coroner.

Reasons for decisions

This transfer will provide a single source of support to the Surrey Coroner recognising SCC's role in supporting the Coroner Service and the nature of the role of Coroner's Officer.

Defining the services that each of the three parties can expect of each other will provide the Coroner with clarity about future support arrangements and ensures transparency of the use of public funds

There is clear evidence from those areas where a transfer has been undertaken that the service runs more efficiently where just one agency has overall responsibility for providing the Coroner with a comprehensive support package and ultimately can lead to improvements to the experience of bereaved residents in line with SCC's corporate Resident Experience priority.

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

- **LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER / INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING (Item 14)**

RESOLVED:

That the decisions taken by Cabinet Members / Investment Board since the last meeting as set out in Annex 1 be noted.

Reasons for decisions

To inform the Cabinet of decisions taken by Cabinet Members / Investment Board under delegated authority.

- **THOMAS KNYVETT COLLEGE, ASHFORD - SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 16)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the business case for the project to expand Thomas Knyvett College secondary school) by 300 places, at a total cost, as set out in the submitted report be approved;
2. That the arrangements by which a variation of up to 10% of the total value may be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director for Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, the Cabinet Member for Property and Business Services and the Leader of the Council be approved; and
3. That the authority to approve the award of contracts for works be delegated to the Chief Property Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Education, Head of Procurement and Section 151 Officer when a competitive tender is procured through the new Orbis Construction Framework.

Reasons for decisions

The proposal delivers and supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide necessary school places to meet the needs of the population in Spelthorne Borough.

[The decisions on this item are subject to call in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **DE STAFFORD SCHOOL, CATERHAM- SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 17)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the business case for the project to expand De Stafford Secondary School by 150 additional places, at a total cost as set out in the submitted report, be approved.
2. That the arrangements by which a variation of up to 10% of the total value may be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director for Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Property and Business Services, the Cabinet Member for Education and the Leader of the Council.

Reasons for decisions

The proposal delivers and supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide necessary school places to meet the needs of the population in Tandridge Borough.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **ST MARY'S OXTED CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL - SCHOOLS BASIC NEED EXPANSION PROJECT (Item 18)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Business Case for the project to expand St Mary's C of E Junior School, Oxted, by 120 places at a total cost as set out in the submitted report, be approved;
2. That the arrangements by which a variation of up to 10% of the total value may be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director for Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, the Cabinet Member for Property and Business Services and the Leader of the Council be approved
3. That authority to approve the award of contracts for works be delegated to the Chief Property Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Education, Head of Procurement and Section 151 Officer when a competitive tender is procured through the Southern Modular Building Framework.

Reasons for decisions

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

[The decisions on this item may be called in by the Children and Education Select Committee and/or the Corporate Services Select Committee]

- **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS (Item 19)**

RESOLVED:

The Cabinet is asked to authorise the sale of land, as set out in the submitted report, following a marketing exercise and negotiations with adjoining owners and developers.

Reasons for decisions

The land is no longer required to support service delivery or capable of generating a significant income. The capital receipt will contribute to the funding sources available to the Council in support of its delivery of services to its residents.

[The decisions on this item are subject to call in by the Corporate Services Select Committee]

CABINET – 26 September 2017

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Members Questions

Question (1) Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills):

The Leader of the Council, in his Leader's Statement at Council on July 11th 2017, said:

"We're also working with district and borough colleagues on a housing strategy and have identified several dozen sites to deal with the chronic housing shortage".

Please could he list the "several dozen sites" that SCC and the boroughs & districts have identified for housing.

Reply:

Thank you for your questions, I am able to advise that Surrey County Council (SCC) Cabinet will shortly be considering a Cabinet Paper on this specific subject matter to bring forward at scale and pace the delivery of housing across a number of sites across Surrey.

By working closely with District & Boroughs, a number of strategic opportunities are being explored together that will help bring forward sites to deliver housing that meets the needs of residents across Surrey.

As for the list of sites at this time I can advise that within the SCC ownership there are 36 sites currently identified. Some sites are currently classed as vacant but generating income and the Council continues to examine its assets to enable SCC to optimise Service Delivery whilst identifying income generation ideas.

As the Member has already listed in her second question she must accept and recognise the information requested is commercially sensitive at this time to ensure that SCC is able to retain the maximum benefits from any redevelopment proposals.

As SCC progresses matters I will ensure members are made aware of information that can be released without compromising commercial factors.

**Mr David Hodge CBE
Leader of the Council
26 September 2017**

Question (2) Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills):

What are the costs per annum of retaining each of the following County Council owned vacant buildings with regard to any head rent, rates, security, general maintenance or any other direct costs? Please provide the costs per building and the period of time each building has been vacant:

Former Pond Meadow School, Pond Meadow, Guildford.

Former Lime Tree School, Alexander Road, Reigate RH2 8ED

Brockhurst, Brox Road, Ottershaw, KT16 0HQ

Former Spelthorne Clinic, Spelthorne Junior School, Feltham Hill Road, Ashford.

The Former Manor School, Magdalen Crescent, Byfleet.

Elm Grove Hersham Road Walton on Thames KT12 1LZ

Sycamore Centre, 14 West Hill, Epsom, KT19 8HR

Former Depot, 14a Ladymead, Guildford

Bramley Grounds Maintenance Depot, Gosden Common, Bramley.

7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Gosden Common, Bramley, Guildford. GU5 0AD

Dorking Centre, Dene Street, Dorking.

Former Depot, Chalkpit Lane, Guildford Road, Great Bookham.

Bentley Centre, Banstead

Merstham Youth Centre Radstock Way, Merstham, Redhill

Glenthorne, Rookery Road, Staines.

The Oast House, Kingston Road, Staines.

White Cottage, 34 Kingston Road, Staines.

Malthouse, Kingston Road, Staines.

Former Portesbery school, Portesbery Road, Camberley GU15 3SZ

Coachman's, France Hill Drive, Camberley

Dormers, Foxon Lane Caterham CR3 5SG

Former Warlingham Boys Club, Chelsham Road, Warlingham.

Bletchingley AEC, Sytchens Lane, Bletchingley

Depot at Beech Grove Yard, Caterham.

Longfield, Killicks Road, Cranleigh

Cobgates, Farnham

Old Fire Station, High Road, Byfleet

Woking Youth Centre, Walton Road, Woking, GU21 5DL

Cartref, Moor Lane, Woking GU22 9RB

Reply:

As the Member is aware, she has submitted a significant list of assets that requires a considerable amount of officer time to investigate and respond to and,

as stated in response to her first question, it would be inappropriate to provide any material that would compromise the commercial interests of the Council.

Mr David Hodge CBE
Leader of the Council
26 September 2017

Question (3) Jonathan Essex (Redhill East):

Please can you confirm what proportion of the housing proposed in the new strategy announced by the Leader at Council on July 11th will be:

- a) at an affordable or social rent; and
- b) built on green belt land?

Reply:

- a) I can advise that each scheme will be independently assessed and that when presented to the relevant local planning authorities the schemes presented will be those that aim to assist the relevant local policies on affordable and social rent whilst delivering schemes that are financially viable.
- b) I am sure we can agree that more housing is much needed in Surrey. The council has an existing policy about protecting the Green Belt and schemes will need to be designed with the requirements of the planning authority's Local Plan in mind.

Mr David Hodge CBE
Leader of the Council
26 September 2017

Question (4) Jonathan Essex (Redhill East):

The overall County Council's recycling rate for last year was reported as 57.7%. Please could the Cabinet Member outline what extra resources will be deployed in order to meet (or indeed exceed) the County Council's agreed strategy of at least 70% recycling, in the light of his plan to reduce the opening hours of CRCs and end the free daily allowance?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. Firstly I would point out that Surrey County Council is not removing any of the recycling facilities from its community recycling centres (CRCs) so residents will still be able to recycle the same wide range of materials. In addition, as reported to Cabinet, officers will be working with Suez to increase the recycling rates at CRCs by further black bag sorting. I therefore do not expect the proposed changes to impact negatively on the recycling rate at our CRCs.

The greatest potential for increasing recycling lies with the borough and district council kerbside collection service. Whilst the collection services offered by Surrey district and borough councils are broadly similar, there is a significant difference in recycling rates between individual districts and boroughs. The Council continues to work as part of the Surrey Waste Partnership to encourage greater levels of participation in recycling schemes through targeted publicity campaigns and working on specific initiatives such as improving the recycling

offering for flatted properties. Significant resources are being employed by the Surrey Waste Partnership in both of these areas and Surrey County Council will continue to support these important initiatives.

Mr Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure
26 September 2017

CABINET – 26 September 2017

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Public Questions

Question 1: Brenda Greenslade - for Waverley Tenants Panel

"In relation to the Housing Related Support proposal, have Members of Surrey County Council's Cabinet taken into consideration the comparison between the costs of continuing the funding for the Managers of Waverley Borough Council Sheltered Housing Schemes and the cost of some of the residents having to go into full time care homes if they no longer have the support of a manager in their unit? The cost of 24 hour care in a care home would not only be very much more but also there are fewer and fewer places available for an ever growing older population which is forecast to grow considerably in Waverley in the coming years.

Reply:

Continued cuts to funding, rising costs and increasing demand for key services means the need for Surrey County Council to find savings has reached unprecedented levels. Housing Related Support funding is no longer ring fenced and our future practice will be guided by our duties under the Care Act 2014. Surrey County Council (SCC) will ensure everyone is treated consistently under the Care Act and is assessed based on their current need. These proposed changes mean a shift from the current universal offer, to target the limited funding the County Council has available on those adults with eligible needs.

Providers meet the costs of employing a scheme manager through various income streams, including rent, service charges, charitable funds and by the minimum contribution made by the County Council's Housing Related Support. Withdrawal of Housing Related Support funding will not necessarily mean the service will end or that the scheme manager service will be withdrawn. It will very much depend upon Waverley Borough Council's response to the County Council's decision. Waverley may find alternative funding streams to retain the service unchanged, they may reduce or remodel their offer.

If residents who are currently in receipt of Housing Related Support have an ongoing need for support they will be able to request an assessment of their needs. If, as a result of this assessment they qualify for support under the Care Act eligibility criteria, they will receive funding through a personal budget from Surrey County Council. It is anticipated that personal budgets will be used in a variety of ways to meet individual needs. It might for example, include support from a home based care agency alongside informal support from family, friends and the local community. It would be unlikely to mean a move into a care home with 24 hour care although this may be the right choice for some people.

Mr Mel Few
Cabinet Member for Adults
26 September 2017

CABINET

Tuesday 26 September

RESPONSES TO PETITIONS

The Petition concerning ‘Shaping Surrey’s Community Recycling Centres 2017’

It states: “We the undersigned residents of Surrey, call on Surrey County Council not to close the Community Recycling Centre in Bond Road, Warlingham, which is a vital local amenity. We believe its closure would be a major withdrawal of services and lead to increased flytipping and congestion at the Caterham Hill recycling centre”

Submitted by Mr Charles Lister

Signatures: 526

The Petition concerning ‘Save Surrey’s Tips!’

It states: “We the undersigned call upon Surrey County Council to reverse its decision to close Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) at Bagshot, Cranleigh, Dorking and Warlingham, and oppose its plans to significantly reduce the opening hours of all other CRCs across the county by two days per week, and introduce further charges for the disposal of waste.

We believe that the closure of these amenities and reduced opening hours of others could lead to an increase in fly-tipping leading to further costs for boroughs, districts and landowners as well as the blight to the environment.

We call upon the County Council to ensure that all sites remain open, with no reduction in opening hours or increase in charges”

Submitted by Mrs Hazel Watson on behalf of the Liberal Democrats

Signatures: 3245

The Cabinet’s combined response

Surrey County Council had to regrettably put forward proposed changes to the Community Recycling Centre (CRC) service in a public consultation out of necessity due to the financial challenges being faced. Continued cuts to funding, rising costs and increasing demand for key services means that the need to find savings has reached unprecedented levels. This year alone we need to make savings of more than £100m – that’s about 10% of our overall budget.

The public consultation received 13,637 responses, which is considered to be one of the largest responses the council has received to a consultation. The council would like to thank everyone who took part and gave their opinion on the proposals in the consultation.

On 17 August I met with the leader to discuss the consultation results. The public had clearly made their views known and we both agreed that we should recommend to cabinet that we would not permanently close any of the four CRC sites.

Having listened to the views from residents and stakeholders, we have recognized the need to maintain these sites for as long as possible as set out in today's Cabinet report.-

Mr Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport
26 September 2017

The Petition concerning 'Stop their plans to cut fire and rescue cover in Spelthorne by 50%'

It states: 'We are pleased that Staines Fire Station has been given a reprieve but we believe that adequate fire and rescue cover can only be provided by ensuring that there are two whole-time staffed fire appliances based in Spelthorne - as at present.'

Submitted by Andy Pattinson on behalf of UNISON,

Signatures: 1355

The Cabinet's response

Increasing demand for essential services such as adult social care and school places, coupled with reduced Government funding, means Surrey County Council is under pressure to find efficiencies and savings on all the services it provides for the county's residents, including fire and rescue.

As part of this the fire and rescue cover in Spelthorne was reviewed and following a consultation in 2013, it was decided to close Sunbury and Staines fire stations and replace them with one new fire station at an optimum location to serve the area. It was agreed at that time that the new station was to have one full-time crew and one on-call crew, subject to it being possible to provide an on-call crew.

A further consultation on proposals regarding fire cover in Spelthorne took place between 29 November 2016 and 20 February 2017. One of the proposals was that the new station should be staffed by a full-time crew only. The Council received a high volume of responses and these are being considered alongside other factors. The consultation report with final recommendations on crewing arrangements will be presented to the Cabinet for decision at a date in the future.

Ms Denise Turner-Stewart
Cabinet Member for Communities
26 September 2017

CABINET RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SELECT COMMITTEE

**Consultation on Proposed Changes to Surrey's Community Recycling Centres (Cost Reductions) [item 7]
(Considered by the Environment and Infrastructure Select Committee on 7 September 2017)**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Environment and Infrastructure Select Committee recommended:

- a) That Cabinet reconsider the removal of the free daily allowance.
- b) That a network of CRC sites across the county are open 7 days a week.
- c) That a more robust method for recording fly tipping is agreed and implemented in partnership with district and boroughs which includes fly tipping on private land.
- d) For more work to be done around further reuse and black bag sorting, so more advantage can be taken of commercial opportunities.

RESPONSE:

I would like to thank the Select Committee for considering this very important matter. As I have said before, I very much regret having to put forward proposals for changes to our community recycling centre (CRC) service but given the financial position of the council, we have no choice but to reduce our spend across all services.

Residents were very clear that they did not want to see permanent closure of their local community recycling centre. We have listened to our residents and as a consequence I will not be recommending the permanent closure of any CRC. However in order to make savings we will need to reduce the opening days of our CRCs as well as make other changes to the service. I have listened carefully to what the Select Committee have said and confirm that whilst we will have to reduce the number of days we open our CRCs, we will maintain a network of strategic sites which will be open 7 days per week. We will also ensure that all sites are open at the weekend, where planning consent allows.

I recognise that both residents and the Select Committee had strong feelings against removal of the free daily allowance for chargeable waste, however the savings that will be achieved through implementation of this proposal are an absolute necessity given that we are no longer going to achieve savings through the permanent closure of four CRCs. It has to be recognised that even with the removal of the free daily allowance for chargeable waste, there will still be a significant shortfall in the level of savings that are required.

I would concur with the Select Committee that we need to do more work in relation to reuse and black bag sorting and this forms part of our proposals for

further cost savings. Just this week our contractor, Suez, has commenced a trial selling electrical goods that have been safety tested and we hope that this will form part of our expansion of reuse activities.

I would agree that we need to work with district and borough colleagues to improve the way that fly tipping incidents are recorded and ensure greater consistency between district and boroughs. The Surrey Waste Partnership have employed a Partnership and Intelligence Officer to work with districts and boroughs to ensure intelligence is shared and this includes a greater consistency in the way data on fly-tipping is collected and recorded.#

Mr Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport
26 September 2017

CABINET RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND BUDGET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Business Rates Retention Pilot [item 11]
(Considered by the Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee on 14 September 2017)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee noted its support for the Council's application, under delegated authority to the Leader, to join the Business Rates Retention Pilot 2018/19 alongside the 11 Surrey District & Borough Councils.

RESPONSE:

I thank the committee for its support of the business rates retention pilot application and for recognising the importance of this matter to Surrey.

Mr David Hodge CBE
Leader of the Council
26 September 2017

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