

CABINET

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 30 April 2019 and will take effect on 09/05/2018 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered. **CALL-IN DEADLINE: 08/05/18.**

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.

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

The Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday, 30 April 2019 considered the following matters and resolved:

Members' Questions (Item 4a)

There were two questions received from two Members. The questions and responses were published as a supplement to the agenda.

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

A report was received from the Epsom & Ewell Local Committee which requested that Cabinet reconsider highways funding. The Cabinet response was published with the agenda.

- **FOSTERING ALLOWANCES UPLIFT (Item 7)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the revised Fostering Service Fee Policy with a one-off budget increase of £810k in 2019/20 be approved.
2. That the Strategic Director of Children and Family Services be authorised to amend and update the Fostering Service Fee Policy in accordance with the increase.
3. That allowances will be reviewed annually.
4. That the 'introduce a friend' initiative payment be increased from £500 to £750.

Reason For Decision:

Foster carers in Surrey have not had a review of their fostering allowances for 10 years. It is right and fitting to ensure that our foster carers are appropriately remunerated to care for our most vulnerable children. Such a gesture will be well received and will also assist with the retention of current carers as well as supporting the recruitment of new carers. The proposal will also see that foster carers continue to learn and develop their skills. It also forms part of our overall strategy to achieve the Medium Term Financial Plan.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children & Education Select

Committee]

- **ASSET AND PLACE STRATEGY (Item 8)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Advisory Panel report be noted and thanks extended to the Panel for their work on this project;
2. That the Asset and Place strategy be approved.
3. That the Action Plan be agreed.
4. That where the Council builds new homes, and where viability allows, it is committed to ensuring that all schemes meet the affordable housing requirement from the district or borough planning authority be agreed.

Reason for Decision:

The recommendations drive pace and delivery of property projects to deliver revenue income to support service delivery for residents and provision of flexible workspaces that support staff for the future.

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

- **MOVING CLOSER TO RESIDENTS (Item 9)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the principle of moving the council closer to the residents of Surrey, and leaving the County Hall complex (in Kingston) by the end of 2020 be approved.
2. That the principles and criteria on which the location for the new Civic Heart will be chosen be agreed.
3. That the analysis provided for selecting a location for the new Civic Heart of the council in accordance with the selection principles and request that further work be done to provide due diligence for the leading location options – Guildford and Woking be approved.
4. That the principle of reviewing council staff work bases, and relocating our people to other premises within the council's estate, in order to better meet service needs and work closer with our partners be agreed.
5. That the responsible officer be authorised to appoint advisors to work with the council to explore and appraise the options for the County Hall complex to maximise the potential receipt or benefit to the council, and for this analysis to be presented back to Cabinet in July 2019 be agreed.
6. That a detailed programme proposal report, for decision, would be received at July 2019 Cabinet be agreed.

Reason for Decision:

The Community Vision for Surrey in 2030 and the council's own [Organisation Strategy](#) envisage a quite different and much improved relationship and

connectivity between the council and Surrey residents, and a new way of working for the council. A foundational step in furtherance of both is to locate the headquarters of the council in Surrey itself. The move (comprising the establishment of a 'Civic Heart' where many of the functions of a County Hall will be located, a wider workforce increasingly enabled to work in a more agile way and the introduction of new ways of working across multiple work locations) will secure benefits to residents and the council.

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

- **REVISION OF PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDERS (Item 10)**

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet makes the following recommendation to Full County Council on 21 May 2019:

Cabinet recommendations to Full County Council:

That Council approves the proposed changes to Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

Reasons for Decision:

- Introduction of an annual forward procurement plan which provides a platform for early sight of key strategic procurements, improved planning and management of procurement projects and identification of a future savings pipeline.
- Introducing more streamlined procurement thresholds, which reduces the burden on small and local business and the voluntary sector to win council work.
- Consistent and aligned policy and process across the Orbis partnership, engendering greater efficiencies, reducing bureaucracy and developing a flexible pool of expert resources to conduct procurement activity.
- Incorporating the latest legislative and regulatory changes.

- **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP POLICY (Item 11)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed advertising and sponsorship policy be agreed.
2. That a number of trial advertising projects are progressed across the county on Surrey County Council infrastructure to assess the potential future opportunities be noted.
3. That authority be delegated to the Head of Highways & Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways to make any future changes to the policy be agreed.

Reason for Decision:

Several departments across the council are currently exploring advertising opportunities as a means to generate income to help support the delivery of frontline services. Progression of these opportunities should follow an agreed council policy to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to each opportunity and that a consistent approach is applied across the council.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Highways & Growth Select Committee]

- **DELIVERING THE COMMUNITY VISION FOR SURREY IN 2030: WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND RESIDENTS** (Item 12)

RESOLVED:

1. That the direction of travel for improving how we work with partners and residents be approved.
2. That the partnership commitment be endorsed and recommended to the Council meeting on 21 May 2019 for approval.
3. That a new model for locality partnership working in Surrey be developed with partners, with a view to foundational new arrangements being in place by October 2019, with full operation by March 2020 be agreed.

That Cabinet makes the following recommendation to Full County Council on 21 May 2019:

Cabinet recommendations to Full County Council:

That Council approve the partnership commitment.

Reason for Decision:

The council has committed to being a better partner, and is focused on developing stronger relationships with partners. This is a central principle of our [Organisation Strategy](#) as it will help us to deliver our contribution to the Vision for Surrey.

Developing new relationships with our residents, and enabling new opportunities for our residents to participate, underpins the successful realisation of one of the ten ambitions in the Vision: *Communities are welcoming and supportive, especially of those most in need, and people feel able to contribute to community life.*

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

- **ENERGY PROCUREMENT STRATEGY - AWARD OF SUPPLY CONTRACTS** (Item 13)

RESOLVED:

1. That authority be delegated to the Director of Procurement, Chief Property Officer and Head of Highways & Transport in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member to enter into appropriate Customer Access Agreements through the Crown Commercial Service framework agreement for the supply of electricity, gas, other fuels and ancillary services be agreed.

2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Procurement, Chief Property Officer and Head of Highways & Transport in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member to procure and award a call off contract under a Crown Commercial Service framework agreement for the council's gas and electricity supplies for a term of up to four years be agreed.

Reason for Decision:

Energy supplies are essential in order for the Council to continue operating its premises in a way which is compliant with relevant standards of health and safety. The price paid for energy is expected to increase over the medium to long term, driven up by increases in the non-commodity charges, which are set by government regulations. This will place additional pressure on Council finances, which can be mitigated to some extent by using the expertise of a Central Purchasing Body to buy energy in the wholesale markets when conditions are more favourable.

The award of this contract will enable uninterrupted provision of the service whilst also allowing flexibility to accommodate any possible change in the level of usage. Even though initiatives such as the Surrey Transformation Programme and LED street lighting investment will reduce the council's demand for energy significantly, energy costs are likely to remain at a level requiring attention of the council's members and senior leaders for the foreseeable future. The award will deliver estimated financial cash releasing and non-cash releasing benefits of:

- £20k pa in reduced buying agency management fees
- £233k pa mitigation of expected increases in the wholesale cost of energy
- 500 hours of staff time in Procurement activity.

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

- **CONNECTING INFORMATION UP ACROSS THE COUNCIL USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES** (Item 14)

RESOLVED:

That the award of a four year contract (2 year + 1 year +1 year) for the provision of an Integration and Enterprise Data Management Platform to Dell Boomi (Dell Corporation Limited) be agreed.

Reasons for Decision:

Better use of data has been proven to help councils deliver better outcomes for residents and communities.

Integration and Enterprise Data Management (EDM) are two digital technologies which will help the council to harness the power of its data and become truly transformational in the way services are designed, commissioned, delivered, experienced and evaluated.

Investment in tools to help the council link technology systems and join-up and manage data better is essential to providing better services to residents. Currently it is very difficult to get a joined-up, complete view of our most important and sometimes vulnerable residents. Critical information is fragmented across numerous technology systems, which do not talk to each other, held in spreadsheets by different teams, or even held outside council walls by partner

organisations.

The inability to have the required information can result in decisions being made on partial information and can lead to poor performance and higher costs. Consequently it is hard to understand issues that might arise, forecast costs accurately and plan timely interventions, whether that be for an individual or a community. This also makes it difficult to measure the overall effectiveness of what the council does, or adapt ways of working to improve performance. Pulling together a simple picture of performance is time consuming, resource intensive and error prone as data is often extracted from systems, manipulated and re-entered manually. In addition the data used for operational decision making and analysis is often not real-time and can be of poor quality.

Without solving these problems the ambition to be a digital council will be impossible. Information silos will continue to divide the organisation, impeding the flow of processes, and opportunities to take advantage of new digital technologies like predictive analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), and process automation, will be lost.

These digital technologies therefore underpin delivery of Surrey's Community Vision 2030, the council Organisation Strategy, and Closer Residents Programmes. They are also the cornerstone elements of the Digital Project, which is a key enabling component of the Surrey County Council Transformation Programme 2018-21.

Addressing the accuracy of our data is fundamental. These new technologies build the essential foundations needed to use data in ways that improve the experience of residents, mitigate organisational and reputational risk, drive costs down and reduce duplication. They are the building blocks which could enable Surrey County Council to make that much needed step change in the way it provides services to Surrey residents and the way in which it works and shares information with its partners.

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

- **MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT (Item 15)**

RESOLVED:

That the following be noted:

1. The Council's overall revenue and capital budget positions as at 28 February 2019:
 - £0.4m forecast draw down from reserves; following the successful drive to reduce costs by £106m during this financial year
 - £20.8m forecast underspend against the original 2018/19 budget; and
 - £118m forecast service capital programme outturn against £137m 2018/19 budget.

That the following be approved, in principle, subject to confirmation in the Year-End report to be presented to the Cabinet in May 2019:

2. The carry forward of £4.1m of revenue budget into the 2019/20 financial year.

3. All Cabinet Members had confirmed their service's forecast for the year.

Reason for Decision:

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

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

- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN REPORT (Item 16)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Ombudsman's report and the steps taken by the service to address the findings was noted.
2. That no further action should be taken.
3. That the Monitoring Officer would bring his report to the attention of all councillors was noted.

Reason for decision:

There was a statutory requirement for the Monitoring Office to bring to Members' attention any Ombudsman report on the Council that identified it is at fault and has caused injustice as a result.

- **STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER (Item 17)**

RESOLVED:

That the content of the strategic risk register be noted and the control actions put in place by Corporate Leadership Team be endorsed.

Reason for Decision:

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

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

- **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (Item 18)**

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

- **CONNECTING INFORMATION UP, ACROSS THE COUNCIL, USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (Item 19)**

RESOLVED:

See Minute 70/19.

Reason for decision:

See Minute 70/19.

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

- **PROPERTY TRANSACTION** (Item 20)

RESOLVED:

That this Part 2 report contained information which was exempt from Access to Information requirements by virtue of paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including commercially sensitive information to the bidding companies) and the disposal of an asset in Town Centre, Staines be approved.

See [Exempt Minute E-1-19].

Reason for Decision:

See [Exempt Minute E-1-19].

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

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