

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET
HELD ON 28 APRIL 2020 AT 2.00 PM
VIA REMOTE MEETING.**

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Cabinet at its next meeting.

Members:

*Mr Tim Oliver (Chairman)	*Mr Mike Goodman
*Mr Colin Kemp (Vice-Chairman)	*Mrs Mary Lewis
*Dr Zully Grant-Duff	*Mrs Julie Iles
*Mrs Sinead Mooney	*Mr Matt Furniss
*Mr Mel Few	*Ms Denise Turner-Stewart

Deputy Cabinet Members:

*Mrs Natalie Bramhall	* Miss Alison Griffiths
*Mr Mark Nuti	

* = Present

PART ONE
IN PUBLIC

48/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

There were none.

49/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: (31 MARCH 2020) [Item 2]

The Minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2020 were approved as a correct record.

50/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were none.

51/20 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 4a]

There was one question from Mr Chris Botten and four questions from Mr Jonathan Essex, these and the responses were published as a supplement to the agenda.

52/20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4b]

There were none.

53/20 PETITIONS [Item 4c]

There were none.

54/20 REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE [Item 4d]

There were none.

55/20 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES , TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL [Item 5]

There were none.

56/20 LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING [Item 6]

RESOLVED:

That the delegated decisions taken since the last meeting of the Cabinet be noted.

Reason for decision:

To inform the Cabinet of decisions taken by Cabinet Members, Strategic Investment Board and the Committee in Common subcommittee under delegated authority.

57/20 COVID-19 UPDATE [Item 7a]

The Leader gave a detailed update on the Council's response to COVID-19 (C19) which included the following:

- That the demand and supply of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) was being constantly monitored and people should not be asked to do a job without the correct equipment.
- That so far C19 had cost the Council £70m. £25.2m had been received from the Government and a second tranche was yet to come. It was expected that there would be a shortfall and the Council would continue to liaise with the Government regarding this.
- A full risk assessment had been undertaken in children's services and there was close liaison with families.
- There had been an increased demand for support in adult social care and redeployment had been undertaken to address the demand.
- Planned highways works would be undertaken.
- Recognised the work undertaken by the voluntary, community & faith sector organisations in responding to the C-19 pandemic.

Cabinet Members highlighted the work undertaken in each of their areas and thanked staff and teams for the outstanding work being undertaken.

RESOLVED:

Cabinet resolved to note:

1. the latest public health situation with regard to COVID-19 and the latest information on Surrey's response,

2. the updated guidance on changes to local authority powers under the Coronavirus Act, including powers available to the County Council should the system for managing the deceased risk becoming overwhelmed,
3. the efforts being made to source, procure, supply and distribute Personal Protective Equipment to employees, in accordance with national guidance and the potential sanctions and liabilities in this respect,
4. the updated assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on Surrey County Council's short and medium-term financial position, and the impact on services, and
5. the measures being taken through the Surrey Local Resilience Forum Recovery Coordinating Group to plan and prepare for the immediate, operational Recovery of services from lockdown and COVID-19.

Reason for decision:

The county and Council continue to face unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 emergency. The focus of response activity remains: i) delay and suppress the progress of the virus in Surrey, ii) save lives, iii) support our most vulnerable residents and communities through the delivery of core services, iv) reduce pressure on the NHS.

These priority objectives are guiding our decisions and ensuring our response and emergent recovery strategies and work remain tightly focused. The recommendations set out in this report will support our efforts across the Council to protect, sustain and support our residents and communities and the economy of Surrey.

58/20 COVID-19 CONTINGENCIES - URGENT AND DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN [Item 7b]

The Leader gave a brief precis of decisions taken by officers.

RESOLVED:

That the five decisions taken by officers since the last meeting be noted.

Reason for decision:

To inform the Cabinet of decisions taken officers under delegated authority.

59/20 APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT STRATEGY FOR COMBINED SENSORY SERVICES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN [Item 8]

The Cabinet Member for Adults & Public Health introduced a report that explained how the current contract for Children's Vision and Sensory Loss Support and Adults' Combined Sensory Services was due to expire on 31 March 2021 and a new contract was required to enable continued provision of these services. Cabinet approved the Annual Procurement Forward Plan and reserved for review the commissioning and procurement strategy for the new

contract(s) which was set out in the submitted report. The Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning spoke in support of the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. That the commissioning and procurement strategy developed by Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Procurement for the re-procurement of Children's Vision and Sensory Loss Support and Adults' Combined Sensory Services contract or contracts be approved.
2. That the procurement of the sensory services contract(s) to commence on 1 April 2021 be approved. The new contract will be in place for three years with an option to extend for up to a further 36 months.

Reason for decision:

We are requesting approval of the commissioning and procurement strategy for the contracts for:

- a. Children's Vision and Sensory Loss Support, of value £132,000 from the Vulnerable Learners element within the Education budget, and
- b. Adults' Combined Sensory Services, of value £1,376,004.

This will enable Adult Social Care and Children's Services to continue providing the services required in accordance with the relevant regulations.

This strategy incorporates publishing a Prior Information Notice (PIN), which will allow us to test the market with regard to the provision of these services. The outcome of the PIN notice will determine the actual procurement route: if there is no interest in the services other than the incumbent provider, SCC might consider whether a direct award the incumbent provider might be desirable rather than continuing with a full re-procurement.

The new contract(s) will ensure continued delivery of these services to the adults and children in Surrey who require these support services and addressing SCC's responsibilities under the Children Act 1989, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Care Act 2014.

60/20 REPROVISION OF DILAPIDATED BUILDING (JUNIOR BLOCK) AT TADWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL TO PROVIDE MODERN FACILITIES (PSBP2 PROJECT - DFE FUNDED) [Item 9]

The Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning introduced a report that set out the business case for the re-provision of the Junior Block (a single stand-alone building) at Tadworth Primary School. Financial details were contained in a Part 2 report. The project has been awarded funding under the Department for Education's (DfE) Priority Schools Building Programme 2 (PSBP2). A full Business Case would be formed following planning consent. The Governing Body had signed off on the plans and the admission criteria would not change.

The Cabinet Member for Adults & Public Health spoke in favour of the recommendation.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the agreement of the detailed financial information for the project as set out in the Part 2 annex to the submitted report, the business case for the re-provision of the school building be approved.

Reason for decision:

The current block is dilapidated and beyond economic repair. The funding from the Department for Education (DfE) affords the opportunity to replace the existing block and provide children with a new education facility to use for another 60+ years rather than an old, outdated and worn out building.

If this is not undertaken SCC will lose the PSBP2 funding from DfE, and will need to carry out the same project at a later date at its own cost while suffering on going inefficient maintenance costs.

61/20 SURREY CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY [Item 10]

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Waste introduced the proposed Surrey's Climate Change Strategy that set out the intended approach to delivering its climate change ambitions over the next thirty years. It provided a joint framework for collaborative action across Surrey's 12 local authorities to reduce emissions to net zero between now and 2050. The Strategy specifically committed Surrey County Council to reducing carbon emissions from its own corporate estate to net zero by 2030. This target, although challenging, could be achieved as these emissions fall completely within the Council's control.

He went on to explain that a two-page summary document would be published on the Council's website and that the strategy had eight major themes which would each have two or three priorities for. Work on the delivery plan was underway. He emphasised the impact the strategy would have on everyone who worked or travelled within the county and the major cultural shift needed. He gave thanks to staff for pulling the information together and in particular the Project Manager, Esme Stallard.

In response to the questions from the Cabinet Team the Cabinet Member for Environment & Waste explained that:

- a. The Government would need to produce its own strategy and invest in greener futures. He would need to ask the Government to support the Council's Strategy and would continue to speak with Government regarding support.
- b. In order to get residents signed up to this and involved there had been various community engagement exercises including a survey, focus meeting and workshops. Various meetings had taken place with businesses and the Chamber of Commerce. The district and borough councils would be instrumental in the success of the strategy and the need to keep the momentum.
- c. District and boroughs had been instrumental in shaping the strategy and the newly formed Surrey Leaders Group had set the strategic direction of the strategy using a partnership approach. Councils had been very positive and it was hoped they would adopt the strategy.

This was not a one size fits all strategy and different councils would have different priorities dependent on their locations. Work would continue with district and boroughs on key performance indicators etc.

- d. The strategy would be benchmarked according to scientific evidence and Leeds University would use the public information going forward. They were to hold a workshop with borough and district councils to explain how they shaped the data.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Surrey's Climate Change Strategy be endorsed, and its associated actions approved.
2. That the continued development of the actions contained within the strategy to identify clear ownership, appropriate levels of funding and a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) by 2021 that can provide for robust monitoring be supported. Where required any respective projects and programmes will be brought back to Cabinet with costed delivery plans for approval.
3. That the continued engagement of the Council with boroughs and districts, with the intention of achieving joint endorsement across the 12 authorities be supported.
4. That further engagement of residents and key stakeholders with the Strategy and actions, so that collective action may be taken to achieve the outlined ambition be supported.
5. That the publication of our progress annually against our targets, with a complete review of the Strategy every five years be supported. Any minor changes outside this time frame will be approved by the leader in consultation with the borough and district authorities.
6. That the Select Committee recommendation to investigate mechanisms for joint oversight and monitoring of the Climate Change Strategy impact and delivery be supported.

Reason for decision:

Surrey's Climate Change Strategy enables us to deliver on Surrey's net zero carbon emissions ambition and build the resilience of our communities to the impacts of climate change.

The potential implications if we do nothing to address climate change in Surrey include increased risk of flooding and extreme heat, disruption to our critical infrastructure, networks and businesses, and increased risk to our health and wellbeing.

Not only will the implementation of the actions contained within the strategy help to reduce the potentially negative and far-ranging impacts of climate change, it will also have substantial co-benefits including improved health and wellbeing, e.g. from reductions in air pollution, the potential for job creation and investment in Surrey's green economy, and more local, sustainably produced food.

Further, baseline emissions research for Surrey, produced by researchers at Leeds University, has identified that there are a number of proven cost-effective and technically viable carbon reduction options that Surrey's local authorities could deliver in addition to the County Council's existing capital programme to reduce carbon emissions. These savings will be achieved across a range of stakeholders, from residents to businesses and public sector partners and could total £1.32 billion per annum by 2050 in savings on energy bills against a Business as Usual scenario (BAU).

Whilst the impacts of COVID19 on the County and the Government's response, including the facilitation of social distancing, will not change the ambition of the strategy, they will need to be considered against the actions identified to deliver the strategy.

62/20 NEW TREE STRATEGY [Item 11]

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Waste introduced a report that set out the Council's New Tree Strategy which included the vision that 'by 2030 Surrey will benefit from 1.2 million new trees, with the right trees planted in the right places, including both urban and rural locations, and supported to grow to maturity'. This equates to one tree planted for each resident of Surrey. The first of the new trees in Surrey was planted on 5 October 2019 at the Surrey Hills Wood Fair. Many community organisations and borough & district councils had got involved and were identifying site for planting.

Several Cabinet Members thanked both the Cabinet Member for Environment & Waste and the Cabinet Member for Highways for the work they had undertaken in bringing this about.

RESOLVED:

1. That the New Tree Strategy be approved.
2. That the continued engagement with partners in order to develop a delivery plan which will support the strategy and our ambition to facilitate the planting of 1.2 million trees by 2030 be supported. This will be completed by September 2020 to align with the start of the tree planting period.
3. That engagement with partners to develop a wider Land Use Framework, to be completed by March 2021 be supported.

Reason for decision:

Implementation of the Strategy will result not only in reductions in carbon emissions, thereby helping to mitigate climate change, but it will also have numerous co-benefits for residents' health and wellbeing. Trees and woodland have been proven to be good for both our mental health by minimising anxiety and stress for those able to enjoy green spaces, and our physical health by improving air quality through the same carbon capture that makes them so beneficial to the mitigation of climate change.

In addition, trees play an important role in climate change adaptation by providing areas of shade in built up urban areas during heatwaves as well as

providing a source of natural flood risk management. Increasing tree cover in the county will create biodiversity benefits and increased habitats, provided that the right trees are planted in the right places.

Finally, it is important to note that other types of natural capital also play an important role in sequestering CO2 and minimising the impacts of climate change. The proposed Land Use Framework will provide a mechanism that enables the Council and our partners to understand the condition and full potential and value of our natural environment, as well as how we can best support that environment.

63/20 2019/20 MONTH 11 (FEBRUARY) FINANCIAL REPORT [Item 12]

The Cabinet Member for Finance gave a brief overview of the report which provided details of the County Council's 2019/20 financial position as at 29 February 2020 (M11) for revenue and capital budgets, and the expected outlook for the remainder of the financial year. The Cabinet Member explained that 88% of the planned efficiencies would be achieved.

The Leader gave praise for the achievements on the transformation services and explained that COVID-19 would have a future impact.

RESOLVED:

That the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year be noted.

Reason for decision:

This report was to comply with the agreed policy of providing a monthly budget monitoring report to Leader and Cabinet for Member for approval of any necessary actions.

64/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC [Item 13]

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.

65/20 REPROVISION OF DILAPIDATED BUILDING (JUNIOR BLOCK) AT TADWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL TO PROVIDE MODERN FACILITIES (PSBP2 PROJECT - DFE FUNDED) [Item 14]

RESOLVED:

1. That the project be approved to provide:
 - A replacement building (Junior Block) delivered by Easter 2021
 - Provision of Temporary Classroom Accommodation to enable continued education during the reprovision of the current building
 - Demolition of the current building
 - Associated enabling and external works
 - At a total cost of [Exempt Minute E-3-20]

2. That the arrangements by which a variation of up to [Exempt Minute E-3-20] of the total value may be agreed by the Executive Director for Resources and Executive Director for Children, Families, Learning and Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning, the Cabinet Lead Member for Finance and the Leader of the Council was approved.
3. That authority to approve the award of contracts for works be delegated to the Director of Land & Property in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning, Head of Procurement and Section 151 Officer when a competitive tender is procured through the new Southern Modular Building Framework.

Reason for decision:

See Minute 60/20.

66/20 PROPERTY ACQUISITION [Item 15]

RESOLVED:

That this Part 2 report regarding a property acquisition 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).

See [Exempt Minute E-4-20].

Reason for decision:

See [Exempt Minute E-4-20].

67/20 PUBLICITY FOR PART 2 ITEMS [Item 16]

It was agreed that non-exempt information may be made available to the press and public, where appropriate.

Meeting closed at 3.38 pm

Chairman

