

Cabinet

**Date & time**

Tuesday, 15
December 2020 at
2.00 pm

Place

Remote Meeting,
MS Teams

Contact

Vicky Hibbert or Huma Younis
Room 122, County Hall
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Chief Executive

Joanna Killian



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Cabinet Members: Mrs Natalie Bramhall, Mr Mel Few, Mr Matt Furniss, Dr Zully Grant-Duff, Mrs Julie Iles OBE, Mr Colin Kemp, Mrs Mary Lewis, Mrs Sinead Mooney, Mr Tim Oliver and Ms Denise Turner-Stewart

Deputy Cabinet Members: Miss Alison Griffiths, Mr Edward Hawkins, Miss Marisa Heath, Mr Mark Nuti and Mrs Becky Rush

Please note that due to the COVID-19 situation this meeting will take place remotely.

Please be aware that a link to view a live recording of the meeting will be available on the Cabinet page on the Surrey County Council website. This page can be accessed by following the link below:

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1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 24 NOVEMBER 2020

(Pages 1
- 16)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting as a correct record of the meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter:

- (i) Any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or
- (ii) Other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at this meeting

NOTES:

- Members are reminded that they must not participate in any item where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest
- As well as an interest of the Member, this includes any interest, of which the Member is aware, that relates to the Member's spouse or civil partner (or any person with whom the Member is living as a spouse or civil partner)
- Members with a significant personal interest may participate in the discussion and vote on that matter unless that interest could be reasonably regarded as prejudicial.

4 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

a Members' Questions

The deadline for Member's questions is 12pm four working days before the meeting (09 December 2020).

b Public Questions

The deadline for public questions is seven days before the meeting (08 December 2020).

c Petitions

The deadline for petitions was 14 days before the meeting, and no petitions have been received.

d Representations received on reports to be considered in private

To consider any representations received in relation why part of the meeting relating to a report circulated in Part 2 of the agenda should be open to the public.

- 5 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES , TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**
- To consider any reports from Select Committees, Task Groups, Local Committees and other Committees of the Council.
- 6 LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING** (Pages 17 - 20)
- To note any delegated decisions taken by the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Members and Strategic Investment Board since the last meeting of the Cabinet.
- 7 COVID-19 DELEGATED AND URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN** (Pages 21 - 28)
- To ensure transparency of decisions taken in response to COVID-19, Cabinet are asked to note the attached decisions taken since the last meeting.
- 8 COVID-19 UPDATE** (Pages 29 - 36)
- With the end of the second national lockdown and Surrey entering Tier 2 restrictions, the purpose of this report is to set out the latest Public Health information about Covid-19, and update Cabinet on the strategic and sensitive issues arising from the extensive response and recovery work going on across Surrey.
- [Where necessary a waiver for call-in will be sought from the relevant Select Committee Chairman]*
- 9 CABINET MEMBER STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA UPDATE: GROWING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY** (Pages 37 - 38)
- To receive an update from the Leader on activity being undertaken to progress the ‘*Growing a Sustainable Economy*’ priority area of the refreshed Organisation Strategy.
- 10 SURREY'S ECONOMIC FUTURE: OUR 2030 STRATEGY STATEMENT AND INVITATION TO ENGAGE** (Pages 39 - 68)
- The ‘Surrey’s Future Economy: Our 2030 Strategy Statement’ presents a categorisation of available economic evidence and research alongside Surrey County Council’s economic priorities for the next 10 years. It not only sets out the work that the County Council will lead on and support directly to revive the Surrey economy, but also sets out a framework for partnership action and an invitation for key stakeholders to engage further to ensure that Surrey retains its position as a significant economic leader of the sub-regional and UK economy.
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*

- 11 SURREY LOCAL RESILIENCE FORUM UPDATE ON THE END OF THE EU EXIT TRANSITION PERIOD** (Pages 69 - 74)
- Cabinet are asked to note the Surrey Local Resilience Forums planning for the imminent end of the EU exit transition period, and the work being done to minimise risks to business continuity.
- This report will be dealt with under the General Exception rule as it has not had the required 28 days' notice on the Forward Plan. The Chairman of the Resources and Performance Select Committee has been notified of the intention to make this decision.
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources & Performance Select Committee]*
- 12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN PUBLIC REPORT REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT THE DELIVERY OF HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT** (Pages 75 - 90)
- This report concerns the findings of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman in response to a complaint concerning the service provided to a Surrey family. As the Ombudsman has found that maladministration causing injustice has occurred, under Section 31(2) of the Local Government Act 1974, the report must be laid before the authority concerned.
- 13 ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN 2021/22** (Pages 91 - 102)
- The revised Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by the Council in May 2019 require the preparation of an Annual Procurement Forward Plan (APFP) during the business planning cycle. The APFP has been developed for 2021/22 and Cabinet is asked to approve the Plan to allow implementation of the identified procurement activity.
- N.B There is a part 2 annex at Item 16.
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*
- 14 2020/21 MONTH 7 (OCTOBER) FINANCIAL REPORT** (Pages 103 - 108)
- This report provides details of the County Council's 2020/21 financial position as at 31st October 2020 (M7) for revenue and capital budgets and the projected outlook for the financial year.
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*
- 15 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
- 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.

PART TWO - IN PRIVATE

- 16 ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN 2021/22** (Pages 109 - 120)
- This Part 2 annex contains information which is 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).
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*
- 17 ACQUISITION OF OFFICE SPACE IN THE NORTH EAST QUADRANT OF SURREY** (Pages 121 - 146)
- To approve recommendations for a property acquisition in Weybridge.
- This Part 2 report contains information which is 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).
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*
- 18 LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE IN THE NORTH EAST QUADRANT OF SURREY** (Pages 147 - 178)
- To approve recommendations for a lease acquisition in Walton.
- This Part 2 report contains information which is 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).
- [The decisions on this item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*
- 19 PUBLICITY FOR PART 2 ITEMS**
- To consider whether the item considered under Part 2 of the agenda should be made available to the Press and public.

**Joanna Killian
Chief Executive**

Agenda Published: 07 December 2020

QUESTIONS, PETITIONS AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Cabinet will consider questions submitted by Members of the Council, members of the public who are electors of the Surrey County Council area and petitions containing 100 or more signatures relating to a matter within its terms of reference, in line with the procedures set out in Surrey County Council's Constitution.

Please note:

1. Members of the public can submit one written question to the meeting. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and so cannot relate to "confidential" or "exempt" matters (for example, personal or financial details of an individual – for further advice please contact the committee manager listed on the front page of this agenda).
2. The number of public questions which can be asked at a meeting may not exceed six. Questions which are received after the first six will be held over to the following meeting or dealt with in writing at the Chairman's discretion.
3. Questions will be taken in the order in which they are received.
4. Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. The Chairman or Cabinet Members may decline to answer a question, provide a written reply or nominate another Member to answer the question.
5. Following the initial reply, one supplementary question may be asked by the questioner. The Chairman or Cabinet Members may decline to answer a supplementary question.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET
HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 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)	*Mrs Natalie Bramhall
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 Becky Rush	*Miss Alison Griffiths
*Mr Mark Nuti	*Miss Marisa Heath
*Mr Edward Hawkins	

* = Present

Members in attendance:

Mr Will Forster, Woking South
Mr Jonathan Essex, Redhill East
Mr Mike Goodman, Bagshot, Windlesham and Chobham

PART ONE
IN PUBLIC

172/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Colin Kemp. The Deputy Cabinet Member to the Leader would be joining the meeting later.

173/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 27 OCTOBER 2020 [Item 2]

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 27 October were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

174/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were none.

175/20 PROCEDURAL MATTERS [Item 4]

The Leader explained that progress had been made with various vaccines to tackle the Covid-19 virus. Councils would be made aware on Thursday which tier they would be placed in. The Leader restated the importance of abiding by current social distancing and hygiene rules to tackle the virus. Although the number of positive results in Surrey were declining, some district and boroughs were experiencing spikes in the virus. The Leader went on to give an update on the Covid-19 community impact assessment and how this would help tackle and highlight the disproportionate impacts of the virus on various

vulnerable communities and individuals in Surrey. This in turn has helped Surrey refresh and renew its organisation strategy ensuring that nobody is left behind, focusing on four priority areas.

175/201 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 4a]

There were four Member questions. The questions and responses were published as a supplement to the agenda. Mr Will Forster thanked the Cabinet Member for the reply to his questions. With regards to his second question, Mr Forster stated that he was concerned about the amount of time it was taking the council to decide the future of the Manor School site in Byfleet. He added if the Cabinet Member would disclose the confidential plans for the site. The Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning stated that details of the site would be shared with Mr Forster very soon.

Thanking the Cabinet Member for his response, Mr Essex asked a supplementary question with regards to his Member Question (4) querying, what was the level of ambition for the county to have a completely zero emissions carbon bus fleet. The Cabinet Member for Transport stated that this work would be one of the largest in the county and across the UK in terms of investment into low emission buses with 70-80 zero or low emission buses. Having 11% of the existing buses being replaced in the first initiative was something to celebrate in the county.

176/20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4b]

There were two public questions. The questions and responses were published as a supplement to the agenda. Mr Paul Kennedy thanked the Leader for his response and accepted that a five day delay in coronavirus data was appropriate. He asked a supplementary question which was if the presentation of this data as a 'daily update' would be changed as it is misleading to the public. The Leader stated that he would review the presentation of this data alongside the Director of Public Health and the Communications Team.

177/20 PETITIONS [Item 4c]

There were none.

178/20 REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE [Item 4d]

There were none.

179/20 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES, TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL [Item 5]

There were none.

180/20 LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING [Item 6]

There were two decisions to note. In relation to the first decision the Cabinet Member for Resources explained that there were a number of properties that

needed to be transferred from various ownerships following the decision to change the relationship with Surrey Wildlife Trust. To date 23 have been completed, 70 to be completed by year end, which leaves 8 properties that have individual issues which will need to be resolved.

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.

181/20 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE [Item 7]

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning who thanked all the dedicated staff across all of the Directorates, the leadership teams, teachers and support staff at all schools and colleges for their hard work to support young people during the pandemic. Some highlights from the report were discussed. It was explained that the SEND Capital Programme was progressing well and in line with planning and procurement timescales. The remaining Phase 1 projects for the expansion of maintained special schools from September 2021, was in the final stages of planning or have contractors appointed. These Capital projects would deliver the remaining 108 places of the total approved for the first phase of the programme. The second phase would create 213 additional places across Surrey's SEND estate to bring more children and young people with complex needs closer to home, as well as reducing the reliance on out of county and non-maintained independent schools. With regards to attendance at schools this had been in line with the previous year and compares well with national data. Most schools have remained open throughout with some cases of 'bubbles' within schools having to isolate. Details of the winter funding package are being examined with school leaders to make sure children are supported in the most effective way during the holidays. An update was given on the launch of the Learners' Single Point of Access (L-SPA) with 65% of calls coming in from parents/carers and 32% from education providers and professionals. Most calls were being resolved at the first point of contact by the Contact Centre. The Cabinet Member explained that the council's adult and community education provision would continue to develop the availability of apprenticeships and training courses working with the economic recovery group to look at provision which would address the skills gap and enable those who have recently lost their jobs to study for qualifications which will increase their employability.

The Cabinet Member for Children's, Young People and Families explained that the Learners' Single Point of Access (L-SPA) was welcomed by all and was delivering promises to families. The L-SPA would be co-located with the C-SPA. The Cabinet Member for Communities commended the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning and education officers on the work undertaken to keep schools open and supporting the most vulnerable through extraordinary times.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member update be noted.

182/20 COVID-19 DELEGATED AND URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN [Item 8]

The Leader explained that there was one decision to note in regards to the second round of the Infection Control Grant Funding which would see the council receiving £15.8m. This funding would be split into three elements.

RESOLVED:

That the decision taken by officers since the last meeting be noted.

Reason for decision:

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

[This decision is subject to call-in by the relevant Select Committee Chairman dependent on the recommendation.]

183/20 COVID-19 UPDATE [Item 9]

The Leader introduced the report and flagged that from 26 November the national test and trace programme would be supplemented with a local Surrey test and trace programme which would be run by the customer services team alongside public health staff. A COVID Champions initiative is being implemented to further engage key parts of the community. District and boroughs have engaged well with this programme. The Leader announced that Surrey's share of the government winter funding would be used to support free school meals during the Christmas holidays.

RESOLVED:

1. That the latest public health situation with regard to Covid-19 in Surrey, the new national restrictions that have come into place with the second Lockdown and the actions being delivered through Surrey's Local Outbreak Control Plan be endorsed and noted.
2. That the latest impacts on Adult Social Care and Children's, Families, Lifelong learning and Culture services and the management and mitigation of them be noted.
3. That the ongoing support to vulnerable residents, including through the County Council Community Helpline and the allocation of emergency funding to District and Borough Councils be endorsed and noted.
4. That the latest Covid-19 financial position as reported in the M6 (September) Financial report be noted.

Reason for Decision:

The county and council continue to face unprecedented challenges due to the Covid-19 crisis. In addition to the response activity, the council continues to look forward to how it can work with its partners to enable recovery within the county and a return to day-to-day life for our communities following the end of the second national lockdown and more long term into the future.

The recommendations set out in this report ensure Cabinet are apprised of the work going on across the council to protect, sustain and support our residents and communities and the economy of Surrey.

[Where necessary a waiver for call-in will be sought from the relevant Select Committee Chairman.]

184/20 2021/22 DRAFT BUDGET AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY [Item 10]

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Resources whom explained that the Council had a statutory duty to set a balanced budget in advance of each financial year. The Final Budget for 2021/22 would be approved by Cabinet in January 2021 and full Council in February 2021. The Cabinet Member was of the view that the draft budget was realistic and deliverable and would continue to stabilise the county's financial position. The budget would be adjusted when the final settlement is announced by the government. Good progress had been made over the last few months in reducing the original budget gap from £67m to the current provisional budget with a gap of £18.3m. Work to close the gap will remain until the budget is presented to full Council in February 2021. The Cabinet Member ran through the highlights within the report and stated that the report not only contains the detailed service budgets and their respective pressures, but also the refreshed organisation strategy which now addresses the changing strategic context in which the Council finds itself operating due to the impacts of the covid-19 pandemic. The paper also outlines a summary of the refresh transformation programme. The Cabinet Member explained that the budget had been set on three main principles and gave details of each. The Cabinet Member was of the view that the County's finances were in significantly better position than they were two years ago. Details of the draft budget were covered in more detail by the Cabinet Member including revenue and capital budgets, business rates, national and local funding contexts and service budget envelopes.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources supported the draft budget and stated that this was a positive step towards delivering a balanced budget built on a stable financial position which would not have been possible without great leadership from the Cabinet Member for Resources and Section 151 officer and his finance team. The creation of the Your Fund Surrey was a good example of the councils stable and robust financial position. The Leader recognised the stable financial position the council had achieved which allowed the county to invest in the future with a number of capital programmes. The Leader stated that he hoped that the government could give longer term security in term of what funding would look like longer term rather than one year spending reviews. The budget would go through the scrutiny process later in the year. The Leader paid special thanks to the

Cabinet Member for Resources, Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources and finance officers.

RESOLVED:

1. That the 2021/22 Draft Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2025/26, including progress to date in setting out spending pressures and efficiencies, as set out in Annex 1 be noted.
2. That the provisional budget gap of £18.3m for 2021/22 and the next steps required to close the gap be noted.
3. That the proposed Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2025/26 of £1.7bn be noted.

Reason for Decision:

In January 2021, Cabinet will be asked to recommend a Final Budget for 2021/22 to full Council for approval in February. The draft budget sets out proposals to direct available resources to support the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities in the refreshed Organisation Strategy, giving Cabinet the opportunity to comment on the proposals and next steps.

The draft budget also provides an update on the continuing transformational changes that are required to ensure that the Council can continue prioritising outcomes for residents, while managing growing demand for services while ensuring future financial resilience and sustainability.

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

185/20 ACCELERATING THE INTRODUCTION OF ULTRA LOW / ZERO EMISSIONS BUSES AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT VEHICLES INTO SURREY [Item 11]

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport whom explained that a zero emission ultra- low emissions scheme backed by county council funding to generate supporting industry investment had been introduced. This would support ambitions for a greener future and our climate change strategy. Providing sustainable transport options would contribute to a reduction in harmful emissions, moving us toward net zero carbon as well as helping our communities to be resilient and well connected. The scheme would accelerate the introduction of Ultra Lone Zero emission buses and minibuses into Surrey and would encompass bus priority measures and pinch points on the highway as well as real time journey information. It was added that complimentary investment by the bus operators and community transport would be included in the project. The project would see the introduction of between 70 and 80 ultra-low or zero emission buses, alongside over 50 Community Transport (CT) minibuses, over the next five years. This was believed to be the first occasion that a scheme of such magnitude would have been introduced in one area of the UK. Work had progressed closely with partners whom were excited for the opportunities that lay ahead. It was added that bids would be prioritised for areas with declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). The bus element of the Surrey Ultra-Low and Zero Emission

Scheme is £32.3m of capital funding with an additional £9m which will go into bus priority measures.

Mr Mike Goodman was invited to speak on the item and lent his support to the establishment of the Surrey Ultra-Low and Zero Emission Scheme and congratulated the Cabinet Member and officers on the work undertaken. The exciting project demonstrates the desire of the council to tackle climate change and support residents living in AQMAs.

The Cabinet supported the report focusing on the desire of the council to reduce carbon emissions in Surrey and tackle climate change, prioritise pinch point areas and focus resources on areas with AQMAs.

The Cabinet Member for Transport explained that work was being undertaken closely with operators and bus operators had thanked the council for continuing with payments during the pandemic. Partnerships were key to the Scheme and operators had agreed to accelerate more buses and investment into the network.

RESOLVED:

1. That the establishment of a Surrey Ultra-Low and Zero Emission Scheme that will accelerate the introduction of ultra-low and zero emission vehicles onto a range of bus and community transport services, inclusive of supporting industry investment be supported.
2. That the Surrey Ultra-Low and Zero Emission Scheme detail and implementation, once agreed by the Capital Programme Panel, be delegated to the Executive Director, Environment, Transport & Infrastructure, the Executive Director of Resources and the Director of Law & Governance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, including moving the required capital funding from the Capital Pipeline to the capital budget so that the programme can moved forward.

Reason for Decision:

The establishment of a Surrey Ultra-Low and Zero Emission Scheme will accelerate the substantive introduction of ultra-low and zero emissions buses and minibuses into Surrey than would otherwise have been the case with operator investment alone, in a post-Covid 19 financial and operational climate. The project also encompasses investment in bus priority measures at pinch-points on the highway to improve bus journey times and real time passenger information to aid resident knowledge and travel decision making. It also includes complementary investment by bus operators and community transport providers to maximise the number of ultra-low and zero emission vehicles to be introduced over the lifetime of the project, thus generating further reductions in emissions from transport operations.

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

186/20 COVID-19 COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT [Item 12]

The report was introduced by the Leader whom explained that the Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment (CIA) explored how communities across Surrey had been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, what support communities needed as the pandemic continues, and communities' priorities for recovery. The CIA would be used to provide targeted support to communities that need it, especially vulnerable communities and had fed into the four priority areas of the refreshed organisation strategy.

The Leader noted that in paragraph 7 of the report, Surrey Voluntary Action should actually read Surrey Community Action.

RESOLVED:

1. That the findings from the Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment, summarised in Annex 1 be noted.
2. That the findings from the Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment and how they can best be incorporated into the council's strategic, financial and service planning and delivery be considered.
3. That areas or issues of interest and for future focus in terms of further research and analysis be highlighted.

Reason for Decision:

Thousands of community members and people working in frontline services have taken part in the CIA through interviews, focus groups and surveys, and the findings are rooted in what they have told us. Further incorporating the CIA findings into the council's strategic and operational planning is an opportunity to embed community voices in our work, support affected communities, build community resilience as the pandemic continues and support Surrey's recovery.

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

187/20 TRANSFORMATION OF ACCOMMODATION BASED CARE AND SUPPORT FOR WORKING AGE ADULTS: DELIVERING SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING OPTIONS [Item 13]

The Cabinet for Adults and Public Health introduced the report stating that she was pleased to be announcing the delivery of 500 independent living schemes for our most vulnerable residents. Progress had been made through the use of external partnerships, void properties and other initiatives. The Council would commission a variety of supported independent living housing options so that appropriate housing is available to meet a range of needs where individuals have increased choice and control over the support they receive. The report is a great example of the council's commitment to empowering communities and would help fulfil the ambitious accommodation with care and support strategy.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Place welcomed the report and the council's commitment to providing residents with an increased choice in choosing accommodation options available to meet their care needs. The programme would truly transform the lives of residents with learning disabilities and autism. The Cabinet Member for Children's, Young People and Families welcomed the more independent style of accommodation proposed in the report and agreed it was a fantastic move into the 21st century. The Cabinet Member for Communities supported the proposals in the report and was pleased to see the council delivering yet again on a bold ambition.

Sinead Mooney left the meeting at 15:15 and re-joined the meeting at 15:22

RESOLVED:

1. That the approach to delivering the published strategic aim of increasing the proportion of working age adults with support needs living in supported independent living settings be approved.
2. That the sites disclosed in Part 2 of this paper to be used to deliver new supported independent living accommodation be approved in principle. Business cases will be presented to Cabinet to confirm final approval for the development of these sites for independent living.

Reason for Decision:

The Council has published its strategic aim to reduce the number of people with a learning disability and/or autism in residential care by 40-50% over the next five years by expanding the development of supported independent living provision.

The Community Vision for Surrey 2030 states "*By 2030, Surrey will be a uniquely special place where everyone has a great start to life, people live healthy and fulfilling lives, are enabled to achieve their full potential and contribute to their community, and no one is left behind.*" One of the underpinning principles is that "*Everyone has a place they can call home, with appropriate housing for all.*" The development of supported independent living accommodation is central to this Vision being realised for working age adults in Surrey who are eligible for ASC. The provision of this accommodation alongside the commissioning of appropriate care and support will enable people to live as independently as possible and deliver positive outcomes to individuals and their families/carers.

The transformation of Surrey's approach to providing accommodation with care and support is expected to generate significant efficiencies. Based on financial modelling to date £4.4m of efficiencies have been included in the 2021-26 MTFs, with the potential for greater efficiencies through completing all of the transfers to independent living planned.

Partnership with District and Borough Councils offers benefits to all parties. Some D&Bs have indicated that they might be able to help SCC secure housing options that are well placed, in locations that offer community inclusion and employment opportunities. They have also indicated that they are keen to release properties that are not well matched to their own client

base but could be appropriate for ASC clients. This would be in exchange for other properties which are more appropriate to their client base.

Review of SCC's current estate portfolio will allow us to re-use or optimise existing freehold assets, as well as the opportunity to co-locate with other Council services.

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

188/20 REVISED MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME [Item 14]

The Cabinet for Environment and Climate Change introduced the report explaining that the report would bring forward a program to update the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme which was last updated in 2011. The intention was to now produce a joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan which would reflect the synergies between the two separate policies. All Members would be kept informed and kept up to date on the development on the joint Plan with regular Cabinet updates and member briefings. An issues and options consultation would also come forward next June to keep the public informed on progress.

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme October 2020, which includes the intention to produce a joint Surrey Minerals and Waste Local Plan be approved.

Reason for Decision:

It is a statutory requirement to produce the MWDS and to keep it up to date. The current SMLP was adopted in 2011 and the current Aggregates Recycling Joint DPD was adopted in 2013. Government expects that such plans are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary based on up to date evidence.

Additionally, in order to produce a new joint SMWLP, a review of the current Surrey Waste Local Plan would also need to be undertaken (alongside the planned review of the SMLP). This will help to reflect the synergies that exist between the two different sets of policies as the council undertakes future planning. Accordingly, this change of approach would also be set out within the updated MWDS.

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

189/20 BLACKWATER VALLEY HOT SPOTS LEP HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME [Item 15]

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport who explained that this was a key priority for Guildford. In 2016, Guildford Borough Council (GBC) secured funding from Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership (EM3 LEP) to deliver highway improvements tackling congestion hotspots to support their Local Plan. The improvements are proposed for two junctions, namely the A31 j/w A331 and the A323 j/w A324. GBC progressed

the two schemes and have managed the project from initiation until July of this year. In July, the Borough Council asked the County Council to step in to deliver the schemes on behalf of GBC. This agreement was made based on the best-known cost estimates provided by GBC at that time. Following a review by County Council officers, the cost estimates have been revised, resulting in the potential for up to a £3.179m funding shortfall. An agreement in principle had been received from GBC to increase funding levels, final agreement is required with GBC and the EM3 LEP so the strategically important project can progress.

The Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning explained that she was a Guildford member and welcomed the council's expertise to help deliver the project.

RESOLVED:

1. That officers are instructed to work with the EM3 LEP to review the delivery programme in order to minimise financial risk to the County Council.
2. That the County Council and Guildford Borough Council engage in active conversations about financial contributions.
3. That approval is given to proceed on the basis of the funding strategy set out in paragraph 15, with the final agreement of funding terms delegated to the Executive Director Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Executive Director of Resources and the Cabinet Member for Highways.
4. That the Executive Director for Environment, Transport & Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways be authorised to agree any additional funding agreements and authorise both the A31 j/w A331 and the A323 j/w A324 schemes be further developed and constructed by the County Council on behalf of Guildford Borough Council.

Reason for Decision:

The proposed junction improvements will improve road conditions for vulnerable road users, increase highway capacity and support GBC's local plan. To deliver these improvements, the County Council needs to secure additional capital funding to cover the current project funding gap.

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

190/20 SURREY SCHOOLS & EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2021-22 [Item 16]

The Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning introduced the report explaining that funding of all Surrey schools (including academies) and of the free entitlement to early years nursery provision are provided from the council's allocation of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). Each local authority is required to consult on and maintain local formula arrangements to allocate DSG to mainstream schools and early years providers. The report highlights the various elements or blocks of funding which make up the DSG. The

Department for Education requires formal council approval of the local funding formula. The Cabinet Member highlighted recommendation 1, for an appeal to be lodged with the Secretary of State for Education to overturn the decision of the Schools Forum and permit the transfer of 0.5% of the Schools Block (estimated at £3.4m) to support High Needs SEND.

The Cabinet Member for Children's, Young People and Families stated her support for recommendation 1, explaining that however uncomfortable it may be to ask to impose this on schools, there was a possibility of the council not being able to operate with the budget envelope for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The Leader explained that the funding of SEND had been raised with Members of Parliament and was a national issue.

Mark Nuti joined the meeting at 15:30

RESOLVED:

1. That an appeal be lodged with the Secretary of State for Education to overturn the decision of the Schools Forum and permit the transfer of 0.5% of the Schools Block (estimated at £3.4m) to support High Needs SEND.
2. That the council implement the DfE's recommended Minimum Per Pupil Level in full.
3. That the Schools Forum's formula recommendations for Schools and Early Years funding as set out in Annex 4 be approved.
4. That authority is delegated to the Director of Education, Lifelong Learning & Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning to approve amendments to the schools and early years additional SEN funding, following further consultation with schools in November and discussion with schools forum in December.
5. That authority is delegated to the Director of Education, Lifelong Learning & Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning to approve amendments to the funding rates in the schools and early years formulae as appropriate following receipt of the DSG settlement and DfE pupil data in December 2020. This is to ensure that total allocations to schools under this formula remain affordable within the council's DSG settlement.

Reason for Decision:

To comply with DfE regulations requiring formal council approval of the local funding formula for Surrey's primary and secondary schools.

[The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee]

191/20 UPDATE- WASTE PFI CONTRACT [Item 17]

The Leader explained that over the weekend the Cabinet had received a number of emails from residents regarding the Eco-Park. The report updates

residents on the progress of the Eco-Park. The contract and facility had become extremely protracted with frustrations from all parties. Clear legal advice had been sought on how to progress with the contract with a review having been commissioned. Options had been considered but were commercially sensitive.

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change assured residents that the Eco-Park would only move into operations once it has passed a number of tests to ensure it was safe and reliable. The council was working to protect the interests of the Surrey taxpayer. A number of issues had been highlighted by residents around noise, congestion and odours. The Cabinet Member gave assurance that emissions from the Eco-Park were being monitored and regulated by the Environmental Agency. Residents with any concerns should directly contact Suez and the Environmental Agency. The Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health explained that she had received correspondence from residents regarding the Eco-Park and would be setting up a working group to review the Eco-Park.

RESOLVED:

1. That the contents of this report and the review of the current waste PFI contract be noted.

Reason for Decision:

Given the Council's statutory responsibility as a Waste Disposal Authority, its waste PFI contract plays a critical role in the authority delivering a sustainable approach to managing waste on behalf of the county. Whilst the provision of a number of the services in the contract are on track, the delays to the delivery of the Anaerobic Digester (AD) and the gasifier have prompted the Council to review its contractual position and to explore what remedies it may have in the resolution of the issues arising.

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

192/20 2020/21 MONTH 6 (SEPTEMBER) FINANCIAL REPORT [Item 18]

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Resources. As at September 2020 (M6) the Council is forecasting a full year £3.5m business as usual overspend against the proposed budget baseline of £1,021.6m; an improvement of £1.2m from M5. The main drivers of the overspend were explained in more detail. Cabinet were asked to approve an allocation of £1.6m to the Public Health service to invest in additional service provision. More detail was provided on the empty property proposal which would encourage district and borough colleagues to reduce the number of empty properties within their areas.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year be noted.
2. That the reset of the 2020/21 revenue budget envelopes to reflect the additional costs and lost income related to CV-19 be noted.
3. That the allocation of £1.6m to the Public Health service to invest in additional service provision be approved. This allocates the final element of a £2.4m increase in Surrey's Public Health grant in 2020/21, further to the £0.8m increase in Public Health funding included in the June 2020 Cabinet report.
4. That a carry forward for the remainder of the £1.6m allocated to the Public Health service which is not spent on additional service provision in the remainder of 2020/21 be approved. This is to secure funding for the additional services commissioned in 2022/23, when (based on the government's current proposals for overhauling local government funding) the Public Health grant is assumed to become un-ringfenced.
5. That the Empty property proposal be approved.

Reason for Decision:

This report is 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 Resources and Performance Select Committee]

193/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC [Item 19]

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.

194/20 TRANSFORMATION OF ACCOMMODATION BASED CARE AND SUPPORT FOR WORKING AGE ADULTS: DELIVERING SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING OPTIONS [Item 20]

The Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health introduced a Part 2 report that 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).

RESOLVED:

1. That approval is given in principle for the sites disclosed in Part 2 of this report to be used to deliver new supported independent living accommodation. Business cases will be presented to Cabinet to confirm final approval for the development of these sites for independent living.

Reason for Decision:

The four sites set out in this paper would deliver circa 85 units of supported independent living accommodation.

The sites fall within areas of need identified by ASC for the need in provision of supported independent living units.

The four sites are close to local amenities and public transport as set out in the site criteria requirement (Part 1 Annex 2). This will ensure that residents can retain the independence and staff can easily access the sites

The latest financial modelling indicates that the transformation of Surrey's approach to providing accommodation with care and support should generate efficiencies for ASC of £4.4m over the period 2021-26 MTFs.

Review of SCC's current estate portfolio will allow us to re-use or optimise existing freehold assets, as well as the opportunity to co-locate with other Council services.

Approval of the sites set out within the Part 2 of this report will allow full business cases, outlining costings, programme and savings to be worked up and presented to Cabinet for Capital allocation.

195/20 UPDATE- WASTE PFI CONTRACT [Item 21]

The Leader introduced a Part 2 report that 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).

RESOLVED:

1. That the salient points of the review and the ongoing dynamic strategy and steps needed to manage a complex situation in the best interests of our residents while minimising cost and cost risk exposure be noted.

Reason for Decision:

The Council's PFI contract for providing waste services is one of its most financially significant contracts, and as such, it is critical that Cabinet are sighted on relevant developments and the strategy for managing that contract. This is even more critical given the delays experienced in the construction programme for the Eco Park, and hence the strategy presented specifically highlights measures that officers are pursuing to protect the Council's interests in respect of these delays.

196/20 PUBLICITY FOR PART 2 ITEMS [Item 22]

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

Meeting closed at 15:47

Chairman

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE:** 15 DECEMBER 2020**REPORT OF:** N/A**LEAD OFFICER:** JOANNA KILLIAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE**SUBJECT:** LEADER/DEPUTY LEADER/CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD AND COMMITTEE-IN-COMMON DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To note the delegated decisions taken since the last meeting of the Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Cabinet note the decisions taken by Cabinet Members since the last meeting as set out in Annex 1.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

DETAILS:

1. The Leader has delegated responsibility for certain executive functions to the Deputy Leader and individual Cabinet Members, and reserved some functions to himself. These are set out in Table 2 in the Council's Scheme of Delegation.
2. The Leader has also delegated authority to the Strategic Investment Board to approve property investment acquisitions, property investment management expenditure, property investment disposals and the provision of finance to its wholly owned property company, Halsey Garton Property Ltd.
3. Delegated decisions are scheduled to be taken on a monthly basis and will be reported to the next available Cabinet meeting for information.
4. **Annex 1** lists the details of decisions taken since the last Cabinet meeting.

Contact Officer:

Huma Younis, Committee Manager, huma.younis@surreycc.gov.uk

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Delegated Decisions taken

Sources/background papers:

None

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**CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS
DECEMBER 2020**

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT

(i) Highways & Transport Asset Management Strategy Review

Details of decision:

That the updated Highways & Transport Asset Management Strategy be approved.

Reasons for decision:

The Highway & Transport Asset Management Strategy (The Strategy) sets out how Surrey County Council manage its infrastructure assets with consideration to whole life costs, associated risks and alignment with Surrey's corporate objectives. The Strategy was last updated and approved by Cabinet in 2018, at which time future approvals were delegated to the Cabinet Member for Transport. The Strategy is reviewed and updated every 2 years, as such this update is coming to the Cabinet Member for Transport for approval in December 2020.

(Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Transport – 1 December 2020)

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE:** 15 DECEMBER 2020**REPORT OF:** N/A**LEAD OFFICER:** JOANNA KILLIAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE**SUBJECT:** SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO COVID 19 – URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 54 AND COVID RELATED DELGATED DECISIONS

7

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

To note the officer delegated decisions taken in response to COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet note the decisions taken by officers as set out in the annex.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

DETAILS:

1. The Council is responding to the COVID-19 major incident and therefore needs to make urgent decisions to ensure that residents are protected. Urgent decisions taken under Standing Order 54 are attached.
2. Delegated decisions will be reported to the next available Cabinet meeting for information.
3. The Audit and Governance Committee will monitor the use of the new meetings protocol and make recommendations on any required amendments to the protocol to ensure that Members remain informed in relation to council decision making.

Contact Officer:

Huma Younis, Committee Manager, huma.younis@surreycc.gov.uk

Annexes:

Annex – Delegated Decisions taken

Sources/background papers:

None

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Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Title:	Surrey County Council Response to Covid: providing support to service providers for loss of on-bus revenue
Divisions Affected:	All Boroughs and Districts
Key Decision:	Yes
Reason Key:	Affects two or more Divisions
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Cabinet decision 31 March 2020 Min ref: 41/20

Summary

Government has allocated £855,050 to Surrey County Council from its Covid Bus Service Re-start Support Fund (CBSSG), to support the significant revenue loss on tendered bus services which continue to operate, brought about by the huge drop in patronage during the Covid 19 pandemic lock-down. This covers a sixteen-week period commencing 9 June 2020, in order to help sustain levels of service required which were adequate for key worker travel and essential food shopping trips, as well as ensuring that adequate bus provision was available for the re-start of school and colleges in September. Department for Transport allows local authorities to distribute this funding to compensate loss of farebox revenue, in addition to the request to continue making contract payments and concessionary fare reimbursements as normal. Revenue losses have been calculated which reflect the lower mileages generally being operated during some of the period and have then been factored down for this. Support will be provided using Government grant provided for this specific purpose and will not create a financial pressure for the Council. Such support for tendered services cannot be obtained by contractors from other government funding. Payments are being made in accordance with the conditions outlined in the document template supplied with the Delegated Decision Record for 17 March-9 June 2020.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

1. Payments would be made to 13 contractors (Arriva, Carlone, Compass, Cruisers, Falcon, Hallmark, London United, Metrobus, Reptons, Safeguard, Southdown, Stagecoach and White Bus), totalling £838,947 to be funded by the government's Covid Bus Service Re-start Support Grant.

Reasons for Decision:

To enable support for the continuation of bus services at a sufficient level for travel required by key NHS and other workers and for those needing to undertake essential food shopping, whilst providing support for the ramping-up of services with reduced revenue, as lock-down restrictions are eased and schools and colleges return from September 2020.

Decision taken by:	Katie Stewart – Executive Director ETI Matt Furniss – Cabinet Member for Transport
Decision taken on:	06/11/2020
To be implemented on:	Payments backdated to 09/06/2020

Alternative options considered

The alternative is not to provide financial support, in which case the funding would have to be returned to the DfT. The funding placed contractors in a far-stronger financial position for when services needed to be increased as more workers and school students started travelling as lock-down was eased and for when bus services have been impacted by reduced patronage and the need for social distancing on board.

Summary of any financial implications

The proposed payments totalling £838,947 will be met from the Covid Bus Service Re-start Support Grant.

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None

Consultation/Process Followed

Decision taken in consultation with Cabinet Member for Highways.

Background Documents

Exempt:

Cabinet report 31st March 2020 setting out the council's response to Covid-19. Letters from DfT setting out CBSSG Re-start.

Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Title:	Surrey County Council Response to Covid-19: COVID Winter Support Grant
Divisions Affected:	All divisions
Key Decision:	Yes
Reason Key:	Affects two or more Divisions
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Cabinet decision 31 March 2020 Min ref: 41/20

Summary

1. On 8 November 2020, the government [announced](#) a significant package of extra targeted financial support for those in need over the winter period. This included a ringfenced DWP-funded £170m Covid Winter Grant Scheme to support children, families and the most vulnerable from December 2020 – March 2021. Surrey County Council is due to receive an allocation of £2,126,391.50
2. DWP guidance on the grant has been received and is summarised below:
 - At least 80% of the grant must be allocated to households with children; up to 20% may be allocated to households without children or individuals. Care leavers up to the age of 25 are not classified as children for the purposes of this grant.
 - At least 80% of the grant must be allocated for food or utility bills; up to 20% of the grant can be allocated for other financial needs.
 - Local authorities may determine the groups they consider most vulnerable and the thresholds for support, however feeding children is a key aim of the grant. The funding is not means tested.
 - The grant will be paid in three instalments:
 - 50% in early December;
 - 25% in February 2021 subject to satisfactory spend and data return for December and January;
 - 25% in April 2021 subject to satisfactory spend and data return for February and March.
3. Local authorities will be required to submit data returns in February and April detailing the number of grants awarded to families and to households without children (within the 80:20 restrictions) and the cash amounts awarded for food/utilities and for other (within the 80:20 restrictions).

Proposals:

4. These proposals were developed through consultation throughout the Council, with the LRF, the Welfare Cell and Headteachers. The proposals should be considered in light of what is practical to meet these requirements within a two month window. More targeted options will be easier to distribute and to evidence in order to release further funding.

5. The proposals below are focussed on the first tranche (50%) covering December and January. If this tranche is not spent then further funding may not be released. This also enables the flexibility to adapt the distribution strategy of the second 2 tranches to support different targeted groups as needs emerge and develop.
6. There was strong support from school leaders and welfare rights leads for food vouchers for children in receipt of benefit related free school meals. They considered these a very effective means of targeting and distributing food support for children in very financially vulnerable households during the school holidays.
7. Foodbanks can work alongside this, particularly outside school holidays, however feedback is that the foodbank network varies in consistency and prevalence across Surrey, which limits parity of access.
8. Recognising that there are other families who will not benefit from extra targeted support for children on FSM, the proposal is to target communication to these groups to access funding via the Surrey Crisis Fund and widen the criteria of the Surrey Crisis Fund accordingly.
9. For low income families with children in early years (2 years old receiving Funded Early Education Provision and 3 & 4 year olds on EY Pupil Premium) SCC holds data on these children and can target support via Early Years providers.
10. The effectiveness of all the proposals in reaching the intended cohorts depends upon how much these groups are aware of the support available and how comfortable they feel in accessing it. Therefore once agreed, the Surrey Delivery Framework will be supported by a communications plan led by SCC Communications colleagues working with the MIG.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

The following allocations would be made from Tranche 1 of the COVID Winter Support Grant:

Children entitled to Free School Meals	£0.5m
2, 3 and 4 year old children with Funded Early Education Provision (FEED) and EY Pupil Premium	£0.05m
Care Leavers	£0.02m
Surrey Crisis Fund	£0.2m
Vulnerable Adults (to be determined by ASC)	£0.1m
Food Banks	£0.2m
	£1.1m

Indicative allocations of tranche 2 and 3 will include further food vouchers issues to schools and early years providers to support families with children (entitled to Free Schools Meals) for the February half term week and distributed in March in advance of the 2 week Easter holidays. Other allocations of tranches 2 & 3 will be determined based on experiences of tranche 1 funding and any emerging areas of need at the time.

Reasons for Decision:
 To assist those most in need of assistance with the purchase of food and other essential items during the winter months, with a particular focus on families with children, in line with the DWP grant conditions.

Decision taken by:	Leigh Whitehouse – Executive Director for Resources Liz Mills – Director; Education, Learning & Culture Mel Few – Cabinet Member for Resources Julie Iles – Cabinet Member for All Age Learning Mary Lewis – Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families
Decision taken on:	30 November 2020
To be implemented on:	One-off payments to be made to the organisations/individuals, as set out above.

Alternative options considered

The alternative is to not accept the funding allocation from DWP which would reduce the ability of the Council to support those in the County most in need, particularly families with Children, of assistance with the purchase of food and other essentials.

A number of allocation mechanisms were considered, but the proposal above was deemed to provide the most impact and coverage across the County.

Summary of any financial implications

The DWP grant allocation amounts to £2,126,391.50. This is due to be received by the Council in 3 tranches, dependent on the submission of accurate allocation management information on how tranche 1 was utilised. Tranche 1 allocations will be made, as set out above to organisations/individuals in December, with further allocations dependent on take up and spend against the initial allocation.

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None

Consultation/Process Followed

Decision taken in consultation with colleagues in the LRF Welfare Cell, the Education Cell of school phase council headteachers, the Surrey Crisis Fund, Twelve15 (SCC school catering), Surrey Welfare Rights Unit, SCC finance, children’s services, the virtual school, adult social care, schools relationships service and EMT, and are based on the grant guidance issued by from DWP.

Background Documents

Exempt:

Cabinet report 31 st March 2020 setting out the council’s response to Covid-19.	
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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE:** 15 DECEMBER 2020**REPORT OF:** MR TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**LEAD OFFICER:** MICHAEL COUGHLIN, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**SUBJECT:** COVID-19: SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL - UPDATE

ORGANISATION STRATEGY PRIORITY AREA: GROWING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT/ TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY/EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Surrey County Council continues to have a vitally important role in leading the ongoing local response to Covid-19, to save lives, protect the NHS, ensure our residents are protected wherever possible and crucial council services continue to operate in these unprecedented times.

The pandemic has demonstrated how people's health and the economy cannot be viewed independently. Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit is one of the priorities of the council's Organisation Strategy so it is critical that we can support people and businesses across Surrey to grow in a way that is inclusive during the economic recovery.

With the end of the second national lockdown and Surrey entering Tier 2 restrictions, the purpose of this report is to set out the latest Public Health information about Covid-19, and update Cabinet on the strategic and sensitive issues arising from the extensive response and recovery work going on across Surrey.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cabinet are asked to note and endorse:

1. The latest public health situation regarding Covid-19, nationally and in Surrey, the transitioning out of national lockdown and the actions being delivered through Surrey's Local Outbreak Control Plan,
2. The latest impacts on Adult Social Care and Children's, Families, Lifelong learning and Culture services and the management and mitigation of them,
3. The ongoing support to vulnerable residents, including through the County Council Community Helpline and the Covid Winter Support Grant scheme,
4. The efforts to monitor and respond to challenges in Surrey's economic and social recovery from Covid, and looking ahead the work to tackle the issues residents and Businesses will face in early 2021 as part of growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The county and council continue to face unprecedented challenges due to the Covid-19 crisis. In addition to the response activity, the council continues to look forward to how it can work with its partners to enable recovery within the county and a return to day-to-day life for our communities following the end of the second national lockdown and more long term into the future.

The recommendations set out in this report ensure Cabinet are appraised of the work going on across the council to protect, sustain and support our residents and communities and the economy of Surrey.

DETAILS:

Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit

1. The pandemic has demonstrated how people's health and the economy cannot be viewed independently; both are necessary foundations of a flourishing society. Low household income and a lack of wealth can cause insecurity, stress, a lack of material resources, unaffordability of health products and services and more. These experiences have measurable consequences for people's health outcomes.
2. Resident engagement over the summer has highlighted a strong desire to support local businesses and looking at how local recovery can be encouraged through innovation, support and funding. Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit is one of the priorities of the council's Organisation Strategy, looking at how we can support people and businesses across Surrey to grow in a way that is inclusive during the economic recovery.
3. Our 'sustainable economy' vision also has a key role to play in our ambitions on socio-economic inclusion. As unemployment levels rise there is a real risk that our most excluded and vulnerable residents and communities become further marginalised and the gap between the best and worst off in our county grows worse. The Community Impact Assessment (CIA), which includes the Local Recovery Index, is a key tool in enabling us to gain insight into how our most excluded residents have been impacted by Covid-19 and we are working with our partners to provide support and advice to residents who need it most.
4. The findings from the CIA also show that we must continue to improve access and awareness of services for all residents, particularly BAME residents, so that economic growth through the recovery from the pandemic is inclusive and something that everyone can benefit from.

Public Health Update

National Lockdown Exit Plan

5. From 2 December, the government reintroduced a [local three tier system](#) approach to restrictions, strengthened in order to prevent a return to a growing number of infections. On 26 November the Government announced that Surrey has been placed in Tier Two: High. The tiers will be reviewed nationally every 14 days, with the next review expected by 16 December

Covid-19 Winter Plan

6. On 23 November the government published a [Covid-19 Winter Plan](#) - a programme for suppressing the virus, protecting the NHS and the vulnerable, keeping education and the economy going and providing a route back to normality.

Covid-19 Surveillance

7. Public Health continue to hold daily data surveillance meetings in order to systematically review Covid-19 data and intelligence and ensure prompt action is taken in line with the [Surrey Local Outbreak Control Plan](#). [The Surrey Covid-19 Intelligence Summary](#) is published Mondays and Thursdays along with a [daily infographic](#) on Covid-19 Alert Levels. Surrey's rate per 100,000 is lower than the rate in England, but there are significant differences in the rates across the county.

Test and Trace Programme

8. [Surrey's Local Outbreak Control Plan](#) is continuously updated in light of new national guidance. The following key actions aligned to the plan have taken place:
 - Surrey's Local Tracing Partnership went live on 26 November, covering Elmbridge, Epsom & Ewell, Runnymede and Spelthorne. From early January, the service will then be available across the whole of Surrey. The partnership is an outbound arm of the Community Helpline and utilises local expertise and knowledge to follow up on those people who have tested positive for Covid-19 but have been unable to be contacted by NHS Test & Trace.
 - Customer Service and Public Health staff have now received training and have access to the national contact tracing database. A local geographic telephone number will be displayed on outgoing calls as this has been shown to be an effective way of increasing call success rates. The service is operating six days a week (Mon-Sat) and in the first five days received 75 contacts from the national test & trace system; 69% of which have been successfully contacted.
 - All boroughs and districts are now implementing Covid Marshal schemes or similar initiatives to undertake proactive physical visits to premises and support environmental health Covid education, engagement and enforcement work.
 - Daily Covid Clinics for schools and education settings are being delivered by Public Health and School Relationships & Support Service colleagues. The clinics provide additional support to assist school leaders in their decision-making when making a change to delivery of learning to cohorts, whole schools or a group of schools.
 - Surrey-based universities continue to manage any cases of Covid within their student and staff communities and are exploring how to offer lateral flow testing to students, supported by the Public Health team.
 - A Care Homes Covid-19 Outbreak Oversight Group has been established to provide a single forum for oversight of current outbreaks in care homes. This will co-ordinate a system response to support those homes by proactively identifying and addressing any issues. All registered care homes should now be able to get tests via the national portal to enable the weekly testing of staff and the testing of residents every 28 days. Lateral flow tests will be made available to all care homes in the county after national lockdown to supplement the current PCR (polymerise chain reaction) testing regime.
 - On 20 November the government announced that regular testing will now be rolled out to care staff working in Home Based Care.

Testing

9. Symptomatic testing is available in Surrey through a variety of different means including drive through Regional Test Sites (RTSs) at Guildford, Chessington, Gatwick, Heathrow and Twickenham, Mobile Test Units (MTUs) in locations across the county and Local Test Sites (LTSs) in areas of greater population density (so far in Guildford and Egham). It is also possible for residents to order a Home Test Kit for up to four people in one household, which arrives the next day after ordering from the NHS website.
10. Lateral flow devices (LFDs) are a clinically validated swab antigen test that does not require a laboratory for processing and can turnaround results within an hour. Early use of this technology will enable us to provide testing to large numbers of people quickly. A strategic direction paper is being developed to consider the appropriate use of lateral flow tests in Surrey.

8

County Council Covid-19 Ops Group

11. The SCC COVID-19 Ops Group continues to monitor and coordinate resource requirements across services to support business continuity and is working with a reinstated Mobilisation Team to support the resolution of any identified resource issues. This includes providing resource to council services but also where appropriate to support partners.
12. The Ops Group will be providing support to the Mass Vaccination Programme and the Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) Logistics Cell in coordinating resource requests. This will be necessary to ensure the correct teams/services within the council are engaged with, and that there is not an impact on service delivery as a result of supporting this request.

Impact on Adult Social Care services

Designated settings

13. As set out in the COVID-19 update to Cabinet in November, the DHSC has set out requirements for designated care settings for people discharged from hospital who have a COVID-19 positive status. We are continuing to work closely with health partners to ensure people can be managed within community hospital bed capacity, along with exploring options for scaling up the number of beds available at NHS Seacole Centre. Whilst we have not as yet been able to secure designated premises beds within the private residential and nursing home market, we have identified some potential options, although these still require CQC approval. We also continue to work hard to scale up the home-based care and reablement offer to ensure people can go home with the right level of support however intense their needs.
14. On 5 November, NHS England and NHS Improvement directed NHS and social care to carry on as normal until isolation facilities are confirmed. We continue to discharge people who have a Covid-19 positive status by looking at their individual circumstances and the options available. There is some concern in the Surrey system about our ability to place people upon discharge and to manage this within current capacity in community hospitals. The potential to expand capacity at NHS Seacole Centre should alleviate some of this pressure.

Infection Control Fund

15. The first set of payments of the second round of the Infection Control Fund (see November Cabinet Covid-19 update report for further details) have been made to care homes complying with the grant conditions. Work continues to confirm the allocations to community care providers, day care and supported housing providers.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable

16. Since 5 November when the new national restrictions commenced, Adult Social Care has been notified of 2,742 clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) residents who are open cases. Our community teams (Localities, Mental Health, Learning Disability & Autism and Sight For Surrey) are risk assessing these residents to ensure appropriate support arrangements are in place.

Impact on Children, Families, Life-long learning and Culture services

17. Most services are now up and running in a 'normal way' (under Covid-19 restrictions) and nearly all of our children and families will continue to be seen face to face rather than virtually - in line with government guidance. As of November, 82% of Looked After Children have been visited (face to face) within timescales, 81% of children subject of a Child Protection Plan and 70% of children subject of a Child in Need Plan.
18. The increased numbers of contacts from our statutory partners to the C-SPA continued into November and has led to a 40% increase in referrals when compared to the same time last year. There are currently over 1,300 open assessments in social care teams, a slight reduction since September.

Support to vulnerable residents

Community Helpline

19. During the second national lockdown, the Community Helpline supported the outbound contact operation for CEV residents to check on their welfare. The latest number of CEV residents in Surrey is now just over 40,000. Following a prioritisation exercise, around 3,500 CEV residents have been contacted via an outbound call from their local district or borough council, and over an additional 25,000 CEV residents contacted by text with details of how to contact their local council if they needed support. The Community Helpline provided scripting and signposting information and directly supported two district & borough councils with inbound call capacity. Resulting call volume was less than 1%, suggesting that established provision and support is in place for CEV residents. However, a very small cohort of people were found to be in urgent need.
20. Demand for help and support through the Community Helpline remains low at present. Since the start of the pandemic, over 11,300 telephone enquiries from residents have been dealt with by the Helpline.

Improving communication with BAME residents

21. The CIA has highlighted there have been clear negative impacts for BAME groups during the pandemic, indicating communications to these groups were not as effective when compared to the wider population groups. We have started work with Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum (SMEF) and communication leads across Surrey to target

messages in a more appropriate way, for example holding focused zoom calls with the main BAME groups, engaging with community leaders and exploring a variety of channels to get messages out.

Covid-19 Finance update

22. On the 2 November the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) was updated to increase funding for all areas of the country to the high alert level of £8 per population head. This funding is in addition to the original £3.44m Test & Trace allocation and for Surrey totals £9,569,888. A plan is currently being drawn up as to how this fund will be spent.
23. Surrey is set to receive just over £2m funding as part of the Government's £170m Covid Winter Support Grant announced in November. The council will receive the first £1m of the funding in early December, with further allocations next year. It is designed to directly help families and individuals who have been hardest-hit by the pandemic.
24. This will support 17,000 children in the county eligible for Free School Meals to receive food vouchers throughout the Christmas holidays. There will also be a winter grant to care leavers, and direct support to families of younger children eligible for the pupil premium. Around £200,000 will be given to the Surrey Crisis Fund and made available to residents who are struggling through the winter.

Recovery activity

25. The SLRF Recovery Co-ordinating Group (RCG) continues to meet monthly to monitor recovery from Covid in Surrey across the themes of humanitarian, economic, infrastructure and environment, as well as considering specific actions that may need to be taken to 'restart' parts of our infrastructure and economy following the ending of Lockdown 2.0.
26. The Community Impact Assessment (CIA), which includes the Local Recovery Index has provided insight into the issues affecting our county and has highlighted worklessness, income poverty and mental health as areas for further discussion at the next RCG meeting in mid-December.
27. The first six months of 2021 are expected to be difficult for many people, with a number of residents already seeking support for the first time as a result of Covid. Data shows that Surrey's Claimant Count has more than tripled from January 2020 to the end of October 2020 with 18-24 year olds being the hardest hit. It is estimated that 16% of households in Surrey are classified as being in poverty compared to 21% nationally, with approximately 8.3% of children living in relative low-income families and 17,000 children receiving Free School Meals. Work is ongoing with partners within the DWP, Surrey CABs, Surrey Welfare Rights Unit and the Community Foundation for Surrey to look at the issue collectively and provide support and advice for residents who need it most.
28. The CIA also highlighted that many vulnerable groups experienced significant mental health impacts as a result of the pandemic driven by isolation, fear of infection, lack of knowledge about services and digital inequalities. In addition, a large number of residents who would not typically be considered as vulnerable, also experienced mental health impacts, with increased self-reported stress and anxiety most prevalent in residents aged 16-34. Again, partners across the system are working together to provide appropriate help and support to residents, much of which is highlighted on the Healthy Surrey website [Covid-19 support - Healthy Surrey](#).

29. In order to help people to support themselves and recognising that not all our residents have digital access, Surrey County Council's Communications Team have issued 'Surrey Together' to all Surrey households. This leaflet sets out a range of advice to help residents through the difficult winter period including details of help and support that is available to them as well as advice on being prepared, staying safe and useful contact numbers. These have been delivered to residents' doorsteps across the county from end of November.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

30. Risk implications are stated throughout the report and Covid-19 related risks are managed through the Strategic Coordination Group governance structure.

SECTION 151 OFFICER COMMENTARY

31. Although significant progress has been made over the last twelve months to improve the Council's financial position, the medium-term financial outlook is uncertain. The public health crisis has resulted in increased costs which may not be fully funded in the current year. With uncertainty about the ongoing impact of this and no clarity on the extent to which both central and local funding sources might be affected from next year onward, our working assumption is that financial resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term.
32. The financial implications of the pandemic continue to be monitored closely and reported regularly through the budget monitoring report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – MONITORING OFFICER

33. The various initiatives described in the report have been the subject of specific legal advice and support in formulating and implementing the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure they are in accordance with the Council's powers, duties and responsibilities. There are no further specific legal implications arising in the report.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

34. This report highlights the importance of a sustainable economic recovery and socio-economic inclusion. The CIA's findings and recommendations are an important source of insight and highlights the need to support residents from BAME communities by raising awareness of services and access. This will need to form a central part of the county's recovery following the pandemic.
35. Actions taken under the Surrey Local Outbreak Control Plan will have positive benefits for residents from protected groups. For example, work with schools and universities will ensure children, young people and their families will be supported in the event of an outbreak. The Care Homes Covid-19 Outbreak Oversight Group will also play a key role in supporting and protecting some of Surrey's older and disabled residents.
36. The report notes concern about our ability to place people upon discharge from hospital, which may have negative implications for some of our older residents who may need to stay in hospital for longer. The report notes the use of capacity in NHS Seacole Centre to mitigate this.

37. We have provided support to clinically extremely vulnerable residents through Adult Social Care and the Community Helpline. Though a small cohort compared to the wider population, most of them will have underlying health conditions that puts them at greater risk of severe illness or death, and our initiatives will have had a positive impact in establishing their support needs and enable us to help in different ways, from signposting to information to conducting a risk assessment with social care service users who fall into this category.
38. Some of the county's most vulnerable children and young people will receive financial support through the Covid Winter Grant Scheme. Children on free school meals will be supported through the Christmas holidays. Care leavers and families of children eligible for the Pupil Premium will also be supported. It is noted £200,000 of the scheme will also be directed into supporting some of Surrey's most vulnerable residents.
39. The report highlights the need to target support at those residents who have been disproportionately negatively impacted by the pandemic. It acknowledges the need to support younger adults who may be more likely to lose their jobs and need to claim benefits, and the impacts on their mental health. It also draws attention to the work we are doing with partners to understand the impact of the pandemic on poverty across the county and the need to develop appropriate responses.
40. Residents from BAME communities are disproportionately affected by the pandemic as highlighted by the CIA. The work with SMEF and other partners to support better targeted messaging will be a crucial mitigation against the worst effects of the pandemic, so they can seek support from the right services at the right time.
41. Supporting digitally excluded residents during this uncertain period will be crucial, particularly some older residents and those on lower incomes. The 'Surrey Together' leaflet is an important mitigation so they are not left behind this winter.

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Consulted:

Corporate Leadership Team and other staff

Cabinet Member Strategic Priority Area Update

Growing a Sustainable Economy

The Council has recently confirmed its strategic priorities for the next five years as: i) Enabling a greener future, ii) Tackling health inequalities, iii) Empowering communities and iv) Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit. We will support people and businesses across Surrey to grow during the economic recovery and re-prioritise infrastructure plans to adapt to the changing needs and demands of our economy, businesses and residents.

This focus is particularly critical as our county recovers from the coronavirus pandemic. Surrey's Community Impact Assessment highlights how the economic impact has been felt most acutely in those areas with a higher reliance on certain industries, such as aviation. The number of people claiming Universal Credit or Job Seeker's Allowance has increased by over 300% in some areas of Surrey. With the UK's impending departure from the European Union, we need to ensure a resilient and sustainable economy that is fit for the future.

The county council has remained absolutely committed to supporting economic growth, despite the huge challenges that 2020 has presented. For those individuals facing unemployment, we have supported them to maximise the benefits of the Government's 'Plan for Jobs' – promoting to employers through the Employment and Skills Board and supporting DWP in the setting up of Youth Hubs. We have set up a Business Leadership Forum as a recognised forum for senior executives of larger and/or multi-national companies to network and promote the benefits of a Surrey location, alongside the good working relationships we have with other business organisations such as e.g. the Surrey Chambers and Gatwick Diamond initiative. The county council has also spearheaded the efforts of the Recovery Coordinating Group, with a recognised role working with the Surrey Local Enterprise Partnerships and District and Borough partners in restoring the economic conditions and resilience of Surrey.

We established the **Future Economic Surrey Commission**, which had its first meeting in February, chaired by Lord Phillip Hammond. The Commission appointed the University of Surrey to undertake research on the impact of Covid-19 on Surrey's economy. The research recommended a four-fold action plan be swiftly implemented: to address economic disparities; ensure Local Authorities work more effectively with LEPs and other key stakeholders; build up specialisms within the county; and launch packages to promote an uplift in Surrey's demography.

In considering the research findings the Hammond Commission highlighted that **“There is a need for swift, impactful and sustainable action to ensure a quick return to short-term growth, as well as underpinning the medium-term prospects which will guarantee Surrey's recovery”** and made a number of recommendations to the **One Surrey Growth Board** to focus on going forward.

The **One Surrey Growth Board** was established in July and has representatives from the county council, Westminster, district and boroughs, the LEPs, universities and business. The Board is proving instrumental in taking the commission recommendations forward, to ensure alignment of spatial, economic and infrastructure plans for Surrey in order to safeguard and maintain Surrey's quality of life and economic prosperity. The Growth Board will act as the voice of Surrey to Government, the emerging Sub National Transport bodies, Homes England, Highways England, Network Rail, TfL, Energy and Utility providers to ensure Surrey's infrastructure needs (including Digital Connectivity) are heard and recognised in future investment priorities and funding.

Building from the Thinking Place brand narrative which has been developed for Surrey, the theme of 'Innovating our future economy' is embedded in our economic strategy statement to 2030, which I am pleased to be able to present at this Cabinet meeting. Delivering against the strategy, we will define and promote a new investment brand for Surrey, one which recognises the uniqueness of the economic opportunity of our county and encourages business to stay, grow and settle here. We will ensure that we retain our position as a place for businesses to innovate, a place to network and a place to invest and through this work we will drive economic growth for Surrey, the wider sub-region and the whole of the UK.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET



DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF: MR TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

LEAD OFFICER: MICHAEL COUGHLIN: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: SURREY'S ECONOMIC FUTURE: OUR 2030 STRATEGY STATEMENT AND INVITATION TO ENGAGE

ORGANISATION STRATEGY PRIORITY AREA: GROWING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT/ TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY/ENABLING A GREENER FUTURE

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

At their meeting of 27th October, Cabinet received an update on progress towards an economic strategy for Surrey and agreed to receive the 2030 Economic Strategy Statement at December Cabinet. The 'Surrey's Future Economy: Our 2030 Strategy Statement' (attached as an annex) presents a categorisation of available economic evidence and research alongside Surrey County Council's economic priorities for the next 10 years. Recognising that the Statement is being presented in a changeable economic environment, it is designed to be adaptive, ensuring that it is able to accommodate the changing economic circumstances which are out-with the Council's control.

It is, nonetheless, an ambitious statement of intent. It not only sets out the work that the County Council will lead on and support directly to revive the Surrey economy, but also sets out a framework for partnership action and an invitation for key stakeholders to engage further to ensure that Surrey retains its position as a significant economic leader of the sub-regional and UK economy. Engagement on the Strategy, including partner consideration of the priorities and joint development of programmes of work is underway already with the One Surrey Growth Board inputting to the consultation process at its December meeting.

'Surrey's Future Economy' is the means through which Surrey County Council will deliver against its corporate ambition to, **'Grow a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit'**. Due to the wide range of outcomes which will be delivered through a vibrant, sustainable economy, the outcomes from this work will also support the other corporate priorities, particularly **'Tackling health inequality'** whereby the importance of good quality and sustained employment has a direct correlation with quality of life and **'Enabling a greener future'** where it will be possible to maximise opportunities of the green economy to deliver both climate and economic benefits.

The priorities emerge from a significant body of evidence, including the findings of Lord Hammond's Economic Commission, a COVID-impact assessment undertaken by ARUP and a socio-economic snapshot of Surrey undertaken by Third Life Economics. This work is being further enhanced by the emerging Surrey Digital Infrastructure Strategy and Infrastructure prioritisation work, both due to be completed by the end of the year.

The Statement sets out four priority areas of action:

- I. Growing the leading edge: supporting the growth of Surrey's innovation economy

- II. A ‘whole place’ approach to growing and sustaining quality places
- III. Maximising opportunities within a balanced, inclusive economy
- IV. Capturing the potential of a greener economy

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Agree to adopt the Surrey’s Future Economy: Our 2030 Strategy Statement and associated SCC-led delivery programmes;
2. Agree to receive an annual report on progress;
3. Note that a wider partnership programme of work is also being undertaken to deliver on the joint stakeholder ambitions.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cabinet is receiving ‘Surrey’s Economic Future’ to set out how the Council will deliver against its corporate priority to ‘Grow a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit’ and to demonstrate the role that Surrey County Council will have in supporting a thriving Surrey economy for the next 10 years.

DETAILS: Surrey’s Economic Future: Our 2030 Strategy Statement and Invitation to Engage

Strategic Context

1. The wider UK and Surrey economic context in November 2020 is incredibly unpredictable. The COVID-19 Pandemic remains a live issue for the economy creating an unprecedented set of circumstances and an unknown future environment. Various other macro issues are in play which also have an impact on the Surrey economy. They include (but are not exclusively): the imminent EU exit, the impact of digitisation and automation on the world of work and the climate change agenda. Whilst understanding and responding to the economic situation in this context is complex and challenging, it is also vitally important. In order to present an effective strategy in this context, it will need to be flexible and agile and able to adapt to changing external circumstances, policy, governance structures and resource availability. This Strategy Statement reflects these wider macro issues and allows Surrey County Council to work with partners to respond appropriately.
2. ‘Surrey’s Economic Future’ provides a Surrey-wide economic perspective, adding value to the work undertaken locally through Districts and Boroughs, LEPs, wider partnerships and direct government interventions, providing a Surrey specific vision for change underpinned by clear objectives and a strong strategic intent. Economic impacts are cross-cutting and diverse and therefore the emerging Strategy needs to reference many competing interests, harmonising and prioritising a number of different objectives. In order to do this, the Strategy is underpinned by a robust analysis and interpretation of Surrey specific data and evidence and will refer directly to other relevant strategies, for example the Infrastructure Strategy, Surrey Future Ambition, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Surrey’s Greener Future; it is also likely that additional, more focused strategies emerge, for example a Surrey Skills Strategy.
3. The Strategy has also been developed in the context of the Surrey Economic Commission findings and the new One Surrey Growth Board, which will retain an ongoing interest and oversight of the work as it underpins the emerging One Surrey Growth Plan and Proposition.

Evidence Base

4. The Strategy Statement draws on various strands of evidence including:
 - Surrey Place Ambition (July 2019)
 - ARUP Baseline Research (March 2020)
 - ARUP COVID-19 Economic Impact Assessment (June 2020)
 - ARUP Infrastructure Plan (June 2020)
 - [University of Surrey Cluster Research](#) (November 2020)
 - Surrey Economic Commission Findings (September 2020)
 - Socio-economic research on 'Surrey in a COVID context' (October 2020)

It also aligns with the findings of Surrey County Council's Community Impact Assessment and will be a key tool in responding to the economic impacts uncovered through that work. It is apparent that further research will be essential to refresh and update the strategy at regular intervals in order to ensure that it remains current and deliverable in the changeable environment.

Strategy Statement Priorities and an Invitation to Engage

5. The strength of the Surrey 2030 Economic Strategy Statement (appendix1) lies in the county's existing competitive advantage, its robust performance across a range of areas and its relative resilience. The strategy builds from these strengths and assets and positions Surrey as the primary driver of economic recovery and renewal, recognising the need to establish the county powerfully against a strong northern focus. There are four priority areas for action within the statement. These are set out below alongside SCC-led areas of action.

6. **Priority 1: Growing the leading edge: supporting the growth of Surrey's innovation economy**

"We are proud of our innovation assets and the success of our leading-edge businesses: as the analysis in the previous chapter demonstrates, they represent assets to the UK as well as to the county. In the long run, productivity growth will depend on making sure the conditions are there to enable existing firms to expand and ensuring that there is capacity for new innovative firms to emerge and grow"

SCC-led areas for action:

- Ensuring capacity for expansion for established and emerging innovative and high-value businesses (e.g. strategic land mapping, business relationships)
- Identifying and strengthening key economic clusters (e.g. 5G/ AI and pharmaceuticals) and working more closely with Department for International Trade
- Building relationships with key businesses and the knowledge base (building from the Thinking Place brand narrative work) & set up new inward investment programmes focused on retaining and growing Surrey's unique business offer.

7. **Priority 2: A 'whole place' approach to growing and sustaining quality places**

"Surrey's quality of life is both a contributor to, and a consequence of, our economic success. We benefit from an outstanding natural environment (including the Surrey Hills AONB), as well as a diverse and widely distributed towns and villages. While each place is distinct and has its own assets and opportunities, we want to develop a coordinated approach to supporting their economic growth"

SCC-led areas for action:

- Lead on the development of 'hyper local', connected centres, helping our town centres respond to changing patterns of demand & using digital connectivity to support town centre offer

- Providing the infrastructure to support a balanced economy – and ensuring a diversity of housing supply, especially for younger / key workers - delivering an anticipated £120m investment into housing via Halsey Garton Residential Ltd (wholly owned subsidiary of Surrey County Council)
- Improving digital and transport connectivity to accelerate housing delivery, for example through prioritising upgrades to A22, A320, A3

8. **Priority 3: Maximising opportunities within a balanced, inclusive economy**

“Although Surrey’s future should be driven by an increasingly high-value, increasingly digitised economy, our economic ‘system’ will need to remain diverse: direct personal services, for example, are vitally important, and will become more so in the context of our ageing population and growing health and social care demand”

SCC-led areas for action:

- Supporting businesses and the workforce through the economic consequences of Covid-19- focusing on sectors of identified need, for example the aviation sector;
- Target inward investment activity to ‘rebalance’ geographic disparities’
- Developing a longer term, demand led approach to workforce skills, with a focus on inclusion, high volume need and skills of the future (linked to health inequalities and wider health outcomes)

9. **Priority 4: Capturing the potential of a greener economy**

“In Surrey, we have declared a climate emergency, and through Surrey’s Greener Future, we have set out a strategy to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. Achieving this target presents an economic opportunity”

SCC-led areas for action:

- Driving the development of the low carbon and environmental goods and services sector as a key part of our approach to innovation and cluster development, capitalising on Surrey strengths e.g. electric vehicle and infrastructure business base
- Facilitate uptake of low-carbon business opportunities (e.g. Government ‘retrofit’ scheme) and work with aviation sector to consider low carbon aviation technologies
- We will support our residents to take up the projected 4,000 jobs created in the low emission vehicles and infrastructure opportunities projected for 2030 (LG Inform projections)

10. Surrey County Council is well positioned to lead and co ordinate the county’s recovery and, through this Strategy Statement and associated programme of work, will begin the process of revitalising Surrey’s position as an economic leader of the future. There are many areas of work where other partners and stakeholders have significant contributions to make to the county’s success and the role of the County Council is to enable that to happen through support, facilitation and leveraging in resource. This Strategy Statement therefore also includes an ‘invitation to engage’, an encouragement to all Surrey’s stakeholders to come together to promote and deliver on the Surrey economic vision for the future.

Measuring Success

11. The medium, - long term proposed monitoring mechanism is the [Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index](#) which looks at progress across related economic themes such as ‘Inclusion and Equality’, ‘Resilience and Sustainability’ and ‘Health, Wellbeing and Happiness’. This tool will be further supported by regular programme updates and

performance management mechanisms. Long -term indicators, including setting out the baseline position and quantifying the actual targets in the short, medium and long term will underpin the action plan and associated programme of work which will be agreed with the portfolio holder. Whilst not yet confirmed, initial proposals include:

- 2% increase in GVA per annum by 2030 (from base 2018 position)
- Unemployment to return to pre Covid-19 level by 2025
- High Street occupancy to remain over 85% in all key town centres
- Surrey's prioritised digital infrastructure programmes to begin implementation by 2025
- Surrey's business survival rates recognised as being in the top 10% nationally
- Resident earnings rise per annum in line, or above inflation
- Increasing economic activity rates

Next Steps

12. Following Cabinet approval of the 2030 Strategy Statement, ongoing engagement will continue through key stakeholder groups, e.g. the One Surrey Growth Board (17 December), this will ensure that the Strategy Statement is further enhanced by partner considerations and offers to support delivery.
13. A programme of work and associated indicators (including baselines) to support the ambitions of the Strategy will be agreed by the Cabinet portfolio holder and Cabinet will receive an update on progress through an annual report.
14. The economic priorities set out within this Strategy Statement will also directly inform the development of the One Surrey Growth Plan and Proposition.

CONSULTATION:

15. This framework has been discussed with Portfolio Holder and Cabinet Members and it is now intended to further consult on the Strategy externally;
16. The emerging themes and priorities were considered by Select Committee Chairs and vice Chairs at their meeting on 12 November and key considerations were included as appropriate;
17. The emerging themes and priorities were considered by key partners at a special Surrey Future workshop held on 19 November;
18. The emerging themes and priorities were considered by large businesses at the Surrey Business Leadership Forum on 4 December;

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

19. There is an ongoing risk related to the unprecedented changing economic context and the related challenges in setting a strategy when it is not possible to be certain of future economic trends and circumstances. Nonetheless, it is also of equal importance to focus efforts to ensure that the economy is able to recover, not only to support our Surrey residents and businesses but also as part of our role in leading the UK economy.
20. There is a risk that, on producing the strategy, the resources are not made available to deliver on it. ***Implications of costs will be considered throughout the engagement process and will be included within the December report.***

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

21. Costs of delivering this strategy within 2020/21 will be met from existing Economic Development budgets.
22. However, budget growth for 2021/22 will undoubtedly be needed to deliver against the ambitions of the Surrey 2030 Economic Strategy. Through the budget setting process, revenue growth of £0.3m has been included for 2021/22 in the draft Medium-Term Financial Strategy, rising to £0.5m from 22/23 onwards.
23. The existing capital programme includes a number of investment proposals which contribute to the achievement of the ambitions set out in this strategy statement. Any further future capital investment requirements will be considered as part of the development of the One Surrey Growth Plan and Proposition, and are anticipated to generate match funding and/or additional revenue income streams.

SECTION 151 OFFICER COMMENTARY:

24. Although significant progress has been made over the last twelve months to improve the Council's financial position, the medium term financial outlook is uncertain. The public health crisis has resulted in increased costs which may not be fully funded in the current year. With uncertainty about the ongoing impact of this and no clarity on the extent to which both central and local funding sources might be affected from next year onward, our working assumption is that financial resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term.
25. As such, the Section 151 Officer supports the adoption of the 'Surrey's Economic Future: Our 2030 Economic Strategy Statement' and the wider partner engagement planned to help deliver against these ambitions. The anticipated budget growth required have been built into the draft Medium Term Financial Strategy proposals.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS- MONITORING OFFICER:

26. The Council has significant statutory powers and duties to support economic growth in its area and a critical role to play in the way its functions are discharged including the general power of competence further to the Localism Act 2011. The strategy sets out the approach the Council will adopt in discharging major statutory functions which will include leadership and coordination using the community leadership role and planning powers to set out a clear framework for local development, helping to provide certainty for business and investment, supporting growth and development through management of its land assets, directly and indirectly influencing investment decisions via the use of statutory powers, supporting local infrastructure and transport investment, providing high quality services, and leading efforts to support and improve the health and well-being of the local population to ensure that all residents have the maximum opportunity to benefit from work, and to contribute to the local economy.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY:

27. The Strategy Statement sets out the council's economic priorities for the next 10 years and strengthens the council's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion through the four

priority areas of action broadly supporting the majority of the council’s equality objectives around the economy¹, health², communities³ and workforce⁴.

28. The Statement and associated SCC-led delivery programmes are designed to support the revival of the Surrey economy, but it also encourages partnership working to develop Surrey’s potential for greater social wellbeing and economic prosperity. As such it is anticipated that it will have a positive impact on those with protected characteristics who are likely to experience greater social and economic exclusion.
29. As emphasised by Priority 3 of the Statement, although Surrey’s future should be driven by an increasingly high-value, digitised economy, it is important that the economic ‘system’ remains diverse and that maximising opportunities is balanced against being inclusive. The report sets out that longer term, a demand led approach to workforce skills with a focus on inclusion will be developed.
30. It is recognised that the Statement is being presented in a changeable economic environment and we need to ensure that tackling inequality and leaving no-one behind are at the forefront of everything we do. Where required, Equality Impact Assessments will be completed for specific elements of the delivery programme and any potential negative impact addressed or mitigated.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

31. The potential implications for the following council priorities and policy areas have been considered. Where the impact is potentially significant a summary of the issues is set out in detail below.

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report at this stage.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report at this stage.
Environmental sustainability	No significant implications arising from this report at this stage.
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report at this stage.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

32. Cabinet Members are invited to continue to engage with the development of the Strategy through direct discussions with the Director for Economy and Growth. Wider consultation with key stakeholders on areas of joint delivery will continue into early 2021.
33. The Director for Economy and Growth is fully engaged with parallel pieces of work, including the Growth Board’s One Surrey Plan for Growth and the Infrastructure Plan and will ensure alignment.

¹ Tackle economic inequality and disparity through ensuring that everyone has the education and skills they need and that the infrastructure of the county is accessible, so that all residents are able to access the jobs, homes and transport needed to share in the benefits of growth.

² Work to close the county’s healthy life expectancy gap by focusing our resources on children and adults who need our services most so they can be healthy, independent, and thrive.

³ Work with communities, through our new local engagement model, to make it easier for all residents to participate in local democracy, service design and decision-making.

⁴ Deliver a radical work programme to strengthen the diversity of our workforce and move to a culture that values difference, where all staff feel they belong and have opportunities to succeed.

34. A full economic delivery programme to support the strategy ambitions will be developed by SCC's Cabinet Portfolio Lead and will be reported back annually through Cabinet.
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Consulted:

SCC Leader

SCC Corporate Leadership Team

SCC Cabinet Members

SCC Finance and Economy officers

Annexes:

Annex 1: Surrey's Economic Future: Our 2030 Strategy Statement

Sources/background papers:

- [Surrey Place Ambition \(July 2019\)](#)
- ARUP Baseline Research (March 2020)
- [Surrey Interim Economic Strategy \(April 2020\)](#)
- ARUP COVID-19 Economic Impact Assessment (June 2020)
- [ARUP Infrastructure Study \(2017\)](#)
- [University of Surrey Cluster Research](#) (Published November 2020)

Surrey's Economic Future

Forward to 2030: Our Economic Strategy Statement



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1. Introduction

Welcome to Surrey County Council’s Economic Strategy Statement: ‘Surrey’s Economic Future’. Looking ahead to 2030, it highlights the influence that Surrey has on the wider sub-regional and UK economy and sets out our priorities to build on these economic strengths, supporting a resilient, productive and high-value economy that contributes to growth across the UK. It also invites partners in business, education and local government to continue to work with us to drive a long-term economic strategy for Surrey.

A world class economy – and a global economic challenge

- 1.1 Generating annual output of over £43 billion, Surrey is one of England’s most productive county economies. Home to world-leading academic and corporate Research & Development (R&D) and some of the UK’s leading businesses, we offer excellent connectivity to London and the rest of the world, a highly skilled workforce and a superb quality of life.
- 1.2 These are strong assets on which to build. Over the next decade, we need to sustain and grow them, in the light of technology, environmental and demographic changes and the implications that these will have for jobs and businesses. But in the shorter term, the Covid-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented challenge, with significant (and potentially permanent) impact on the economy. At the time of writing, there are signs of optimism, as new vaccines (some developed by firms with a key presence in Surrey) are likely to be rolled out in the coming months. So it is important that we plan now for the county’s recovery.

Building on the evidence...

- 1.3 To support this, we have developed a strong base of economic intelligence over the past year. This includes a detailed economic baseline analysis, research by the University of Surrey identifying opportunities for the county’s post-Covid resilience and growth, and an early review of the potential economic trends that might result from the current crisis. We have also been informed by analysis prepared by our local authorities, our two local enterprise partnerships and business organisations.
- 1.4 Alongside the development of the evidence base, an independent Future Economy Surrey Commission (FESC) was established in 2020, under the chairmanship of the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Philip Hammond . Reflecting on the evidence, the Hammond



“There is a need for swift, impactful and sustainable action to ensure a quick return to short-term growth, as well as underpinning the medium-term prospects which will guarantee Surrey’s recovery”



Commission called for a “**relentless focus on sustaining current activity and supporting future growth**”, striking a balance between measures that deliver growth and jobs retention in the short-to-medium term and enhance Surrey’s key strengths and assets in the longer run. To support this, the Commission recommended a “clear strategy” to promote the county’s economic growth.

...to develop an economic strategy for the future

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- 1.5** Responding to this recommendation, **Surrey’s Economic Future** sets out the actions that the County Council will take to drive sustainable growth and deliver against its Corporate Priority to ‘**Grow a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit**’. Not only will this Statement deliver against Surrey County Council’s Corporate priorities but it is also an invitation to partners in business, higher and further education and the county’s Districts and Boroughs to continue to work with us to develop a coordinated and ambitious plan for the future of the economy.
- 1.6** Focused on supporting economic recovery in the short term and enhancing Surrey’s net contribution to the UK economy over the longer term, it identifies a series of ‘big priorities’ to 2030 and a number of propositions for growth that we will seek to develop with partners over the coming months.
- 1.7** We are keen to hear partners’ views. In particular, we welcome considerations on the growth propositions that we have outlined, including opportunities to secure private investment to help achieve wider economic outcomes.
- 1.8** Building on partners’ views and in the light of further evidence and business case development, we will further develop this Statement in 2021. Setting out a shared statement of partners’ intent, this work will inform the **One Surrey Plan for Growth** and the development of potential agreements with Government for investment and flexibilities.

Structure

- 1.9** The remainder of **Surrey’s Economic Future** is structured in three sections:
- **Chapter 2** outlines Surrey’s key economic opportunities and assets – and the challenges that we will need to address to retain and develop them further.
 - **Chapter 3** introduces four priority themes on which we envisage future activity will be focused, and sets out how these will be supported through investment in workforce skills, connectivity and the acceleration of planned housing growth.
 - **Chapter 4** explains *how* we will work together to turn the priorities we have set out into action, outlining the next steps in developing *Surrey’s Economic Future* and how success will be measured.

2. Surrey's economic landscape

Surrey has an innovative and productive economy, underpinned by excellent connectivity and workforce skills. Building on these strengths will be essential to our future prosperity – and to the wider contribution that the county makes to the UK as a whole. This chapter sets out our key strengths and assets – and the challenges that we will need to address in the coming years.

High value, well-connected: Key assets and strengths

Significant innovation assets...

- 2.1 Surrey contains nationally significant innovation and R&D assets**, which have been developed over many years. Academic assets include the University of Surrey and Royal Holloway University of London, both of which are research-intensive institutions, with a strong focus on digital technology. These strengths have been developed in recent years, for example with the establishment and expansion of the **5G Innovation Centre** at the University of Surrey in Guildford: a national institution making an important contribution to the UK's exploitation of future digital communications and with links to institutions across the country from its base in Surrey. Other globally-important centres of science and technology include the **Pirbright Institute** at Woking, one of the world's leading centres of research into animal viruses (and in the current pandemic, playing a key role in the development of a coronavirus vaccine).
- 2.2 Linked with this research base, there is a strong presence in industrial research and development.** Examples of 'indigenous' firms which have been 'built' in Surrey include the leading satellite engineering company SSTL (originally a spin-out from the University of Surrey, and still based at Surrey Research Park in Guildford), and McLaren at Woking, best known for its role in high-performance motorsports, but at the 'leading edge' of research and development in medical devices and other engineering applications. These are supplemented by an extensive stock of international corporates, which have chosen Surrey as a location for R&D and headquarters facilities: examples include BAE Systems and Siemens in engineering and Pfizer and Novartis in life sciences. In the service sector, the county is also home to a range of leading businesses in the consultancy and financial services sector.
- 2.3** Two points are worth making on Surrey's impressive stock of R&D and corporate activity:
- First, **some assets have built over time and are embedded in existing and complex 'ecosystems'**: as the case study of Surrey Research Park below demonstrates, innovation capabilities have expanded through links between firms,

universities, support services and key individuals, in a way that is hard to replicate elsewhere.

- Second, **innovation activity in Surrey helps to drive growth elsewhere in the UK economy**. For example, McLaren’s high-value engineering activities in Surrey work as part of a network of manufacturing facilities across the UK, including the firm’s major investment at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre in Sheffield. The point is that innovation in Surrey is a *national* asset, as well as a local one – and efforts to sustain and build on it ought to recognise that national contribution.

Case Study – Surrey Research Park

Surrey Research Park is one of the county’s key innovation assets, and demonstrates the value of consistent growth over time. In the 1970s, the University of Surrey extended its ability to work with industry by developing a new science park, along the lines of those already being developed in the United States. The first tenants were located on the Park in 1985; today, the Park is home to around 500 businesses, with around 4,000 people on site.

From the start, Surrey Research Park aimed to facilitate the commercialisation of research, and has maintained this objective over time. The University continues to play an active role, and the Park has been able to develop wider ‘network assets’, including through the SETsquared university innovation support offer.

... and a large and active business base

- 2.4** Within the wider economy, **Surrey has a relatively large number of active businesses** –some 600 active businesses per 10,000 population (about 23% higher than the equivalent figure for the South East of England as a whole). The overall business stock grew in the decade to 2018, and survival rates are slightly higher than the national average.

... supported by workforce talent and connectivity

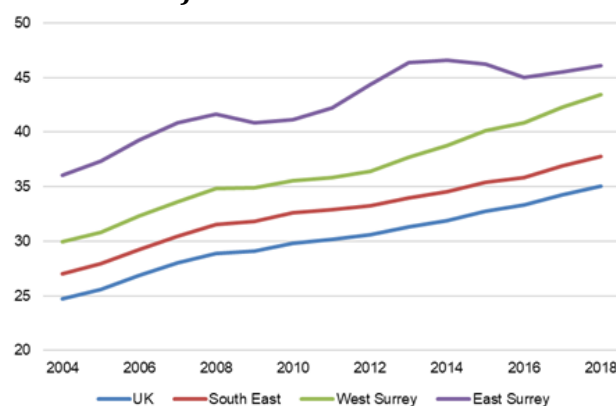
- 2.5** **These business assets are underpinned by a workforce which is relatively well qualified.** Almost half of the working age population is qualified to NVQ4 (i.e. degree level) or above, a much higher rate than in England as a whole, with above average qualification levels visible in every district across the county. High qualification levels are reflected in relatively high wages (both workplace and resident earnings are higher than national and regional levels) and a labour market that has (at least until the recent employment shock driven by the Covid-19 pandemic) been generally tight.

2.6 The county also benefits from excellent transport connectivity. Proximity to London is an important asset (as is Surrey’s position at the heart of the South East, with easy access to jobs and markets in similarly well-performing areas, such as the Thames Valley and the M3 Corridor). This national connectivity is supplemented by access to London’s two main airports at Heathrow and Gatwick, both of which are just outside the county boundaries, but which have been important drivers of business location decisions.

... driving high productivity overall

2.7 Following on from a recent change¹ to the ONS calculation of productivity² (the previously seen differential in levels of productivity between East and West Surrey have been adjusted. Through this new analysis it is apparent that East Surrey’s productivity remains strong, despite a dip in 2016. Both areas of Surrey perform above the national average, reflecting the concentration of ‘higher value’ activities and more productive sectors in the county. This relatively high productivity has been

Figure 2-1: Productivity, 2004-18 (GVA, £ per hour worked)



consistent over time: East Surrey has the fifth highest GVA per hour worked of any ‘NUTS3’ area in the UK outside London, while West Surrey has the seventh highest. In order to maximise longer-term productivity benefits to Surrey, the wider sub-region and the UK as a whole, we will ensure that priorities within our delivery plan are informed by a detailed assessment of where best to intervene to drive improvements in productivity and GVA.

2.8 We are a relatively unbalanced economy with much of the higher value, knowledge intensive, research and development and innovative business activity focused in the West around the University of Surrey in Guildford. In addition to this, areas of East Surrey have an over reliance on the Financial and Insurance services sector which is strongly connected to the London economy and whilst it is still unclear what long-term structural changes COVID-19 has had on the London economy and what the impact on East Surrey might be, it is clear that an over reliance on one sector makes any area less resilient to economic impacts.

2.9 Looking to the future, the Hammond Commission highlighted the opportunity to build on significant economic strengths, developing Surrey’s capabilities in advanced digital

¹<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/articles/regionalandsubregionalproductivityintheuk/february2020>

² Gross value added per hour worked as a conventional measurement of productivity

technologies (artificial intelligence, 5G, cybersecurity) and its stock of commercial and academic R&D activity to make the county a key part of a UK ‘silicon valley’, linked with opportunities across the wider South East.

Economic diversity

Surrey is a coherent economic geography with widely-recognised assets: recent work on the county’s brand found that ‘innovation for our future economy’ and ‘natural landscape and lifestyle’ were widely seen as synonymous with Surrey’s identity.

However, we are a diverse county, with relatively high population density in the west and in the north along the border with Greater London, and a substantial rural area in the south. There is also diversity at local level in Surrey’s concentrations of economic activity, with (for example) a very high representation in insurance and financial services in Reigate and Banstead, and high concentrations in information and communications across much of the west of the county.

Challenges ahead

2.10 The picture described above is broadly positive: there are substantial strengths on which we can build. However, the Future Economy Surrey Commission has highlighted the risk of “*complacency and relative decline*”: in a dynamic economy, past achievements are no guarantee of future success, and there are risks to Surrey’s ‘virtuous circle’ of innovation, productivity and prosperity.

In the long run...

2.11 Looking ahead to 2030, there are five big challenges that will impact on Surrey’s economy and which, if we do not plan for them now, could impede our ability to generate continued growth and sustain our national contribution:

- **Consequences of innovation:** There are significant gains to be made from the exploitation of new technology, and as Surrey’s innovation strengths suggest, the county is well placed to take advantage of them. However, technology change could potentially have far-reaching implications for employment: while the risks of automation are generally greatest in relatively low-skilled occupations, service industry occupations (for example in financial services and insurance) are likely to be increasingly vulnerable to advanced digital technology. It will be important to future growth that both firms and employees are resilient and adaptable to change: able to adopt new technology and able to transfer skills as the economy evolves.

- **Demographic change:** Like much of the country, Surrey has a population that is ageing, and an overall rate of population growth that is somewhat below the national average, despite the county's (normally) buoyant jobs market. To some extent, this is a consequence of significant and inevitable constraints on development: much of the county is part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or is Metropolitan Green Belt. But it highlights the importance of maintaining productivity growth if we are to maintain and improve living standards and support a rising dependency ratio. The Hammond Commission highlighted the county's 'demographic imbalance' as a key challenge for the future, noting the need to retain young people and ensure the productivity gains that will be needed to sustain competitiveness and quality of life.
- **Improving connectivity for the next generation:** Transport connectivity is one of Surrey's strengths though road congestion is often cited as a negative factor by businesses. East-west travel (other than via the M25) is much more limited than travel along the main linear routes into London, although we host some of the world's leading research into advanced digital technology, digital connectivity to homes and businesses is often limited – presenting a significant constraint in the context of rising demand for increasingly complex applications
- **Economic disparities and supporting opportunities for everyone:** Even if we are successful in driving forward long-term productivity, quality of life depends on jobs that are less 'productive' (in a formal economic sense), but which deliver vital services, both in the public and commercial sectors. In a *relatively* expensive county, we need to ensure that everyone who works within Surrey's economic system can afford to live here, making sure that we are attractive and viable for a younger and diverse population.
- **Environmental resilience:** We are committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Surrey's presence in carbon-intensive industry is relatively low (though acknowledging that the two airports bordering the county provide employment for Surrey residents), but it will be important to the county's resilience and future prosperity that businesses are at the 'leading edge' of carbon reduction and are able to develop and take advantage of measures to reduce their environmental footprint over time.

... and in the shorter term

2.12 More immediately, **Surrey's economy faces a significant challenge from the economic consequences of the public health measures put in place to control the spread of Covid-19.** Between February and September 2020, unemployment (measured by the claimant count) rose by 243% to 31,000 - double the national rate of increase, albeit from a very low base. In a county where unemployment has historically been very low, this presents a significant medium-term challenge, and it is likely that the dislocation caused by the crisis will take time to rebalance, even after the economy returns to growth. Impacts

on business, especially those in the retail, hospitality and cultural sectors, have also been sharp.

2.13 Beyond the immediate employment shock, driven by the forced closures of some areas of activity and more general weak demand, there are likely to be longer term impacts to which the economy will need to adjust. Of particular relevance to the Surrey economy, the **impact on the aviation sector** has been severe and may lead to structural change. However, changes in working practices may also lead to **longer term adjustments in commuting patterns and the use of local centres**. There are opportunities for Surrey in these changes, as well as challenges: in particular, reduced commuting could yield increase productive time and environmental benefits, as well as helping to secure additional activity in the county and retain expenditure. But as the current crisis is evolving rapidly, we will need to monitor change closely and adapt quickly.

3. Towards 2030: Big priorities for the next decade

3.1 Building on the evidence base outlined in Chapter 2, we have identified **four key priorities** to support Surrey's growth through the current crisis and into the next decade, focused on:

- I. Growing the leading edge: supporting the growth of Surrey's innovation economy
- II. A 'whole place' approach to growing and sustaining quality places
- III. Maximising opportunities within a balanced, inclusive economy
- IV. Capturing the potential of a greener economy

3.2 These are big priorities – but engaging with them will be crucial to Surrey's future prosperity and competitiveness. This chapter outlines how these could be addressed, setting out a series of bold, emerging **growth propositions** that we will explore with local partners and with Government over the coming year.

Priority 1: Growing the leading edge

3.3 We are proud of our innovation assets and the success of our leading-edge businesses. As the analysis in the previous chapter demonstrates, they represent assets to the UK as well as to the county. In the long run, productivity growth will depend on making sure the conditions are there to enable existing firms to expand and ensuring that there is capacity for new innovative firms to emerge and grow.

3.4 Key areas for action include:

- **Ensuring capacity for expansion:** While Surrey is an attractive business location, land supply is constrained and it is often challenging for businesses to secure the space they need to expand. This potentially acts as a brake on overall growth, especially where a decision to leave the county will lead to a net economic cost (for example, if relationships with the knowledge base or supply chain businesses are disrupted as a result of a relocation decision).

Working with the Surrey Districts and Boroughs, business and key stakeholders such as the universities, we will seek to develop a coordinated strategy for expansion space for innovative and high-growth businesses, with the aim of increasing net national GVA. As a first step, we will seek to develop a better understanding of the supply and demand for additional space and the benefits that a more strategic approach could yield.

- **Identifying and strengthening key economic clusters:** Across Surrey, we have key strengths in digital technology, advanced engineering, animal, plant and human health and financial and business services – and we are seeing growth in low carbon and environmental goods and services. We want to embed these firmly within the local economy, strengthening supply chain links, improving access to physical space (through the action above and through the work of Invest Surrey); enabling the adoption of technology; and ensuring access to support through Innovate UK and other sources where it will help to accelerate growth. We will develop a cluster development programme, identifying where collective action can make the greatest difference.
- **Building business and knowledge base relationships:** Across all our actions in developing the 'leading edge', we will seek to strengthen relationships between 'anchor' and emerging businesses, universities and support institutions and with economic development organisations including our two local enterprise partnerships in EM3 and Coast to Capital.

Emerging Growth Proposition 1: Surrey Innovation Programme

To drive forward our innovation and business growth potential, we will establish a **Surrey Innovation Programme**. Working alongside support already offered by central Government and the LEPs, we envisage that this will involve:

- Establishing a revolving innovation fund to support new and expanding businesses in key sectors and technology areas
- Linked with this, building an innovation programme alongside University of Surrey and other partners – building on our knowledge base to drive future growth across the county
- Setting up a new inward investment service focused on retaining and growing Surrey's unique business offer – especially in relation to the retention of activities that are 'net additional' to the UK.

Indicatively, the Innovation Programme might seek £50 million from Government, matched by private and local public sources and with the aim of achieving a sustainable fund that will be reinvested in future growth.

Priority 2: A ‘whole place’ approach to creating and sustaining quality places

- 3.5** Surrey’s quality of life is both a contributor to, and a consequence of, our economic success. We benefit from an outstanding natural environment (including the Surrey Hills AONB), as well as a diverse and widely distributed towns and villages. While each place is distinct and has its own assets and opportunities, we want to develop a coordinated approach to supporting their economic growth, building on recent consultation which has highlighted the key aspects of the ‘Surrey story’ with which residents, businesses and other partners most identify.
- 3.6** In recent years, the role of our towns has evolved. Changes in the retail market have impacted on town centre uses, while the ability to ‘work anywhere’ has driven demand for new types of workspace. While these trends have been visible for several years, the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated them, with (enforced) falling demand for bricks and mortar retail on the one hand, and a substantial net increase in the local working population on the other.
- 3.7** In the light of these trends, we will support the development of **‘hyper-local’, connected centres (utilising the existing property estate of SCC wherever appropriate)**, helping our town centres respond to changing demand. At the same time, we will seek to:
- **Understand changed demand from our increasingly local workforce:** At the moment, we do not know how ‘permanent’ some of the changes we have seen will be. But it is likely that more people will want to work closer to home, and this presents us with local opportunities. Linked with our approach to expansion capacity outlined above, we will seek to better understand the need for different types of workspace and we will support efforts to bring forward new initiatives in response to this.
 - **Provide the infrastructure to support a balanced economy.** As a core part of our economic strategy, we will work with our district and boroughs as the planning authorities to **ensure a diversity of housing supply to meet demand**, especially from younger workers – contributing to a balanced and sustainable population and ensuring that there are wide opportunities to contribute to Surrey’s economy
 - **Use technology to support the retail and hospitality sector:** The crisis has accelerated the shift towards online trading - and we want to make sure that local firms can take advantage of this. We will explore the potential for a **new e-commerce platform for local firms** and access to resources to enable them to expand their multi-channel presence.
 - **Improve digital connectivity**, ensuring that people are better able to work remotely and making sure that Surrey’s ‘everyday’ connectivity matches our wider digital

ambition. Surrey's Digital Strategy notes the need to develop a 'county-wide digital infrastructure', including those rural communities that face the greatest connectivity challenges. We will work with commercial and public sector partners to develop a 'masterplan' for future digital infrastructure, setting out a clear understanding of gaps and opportunities and the economic case for investment.

- **Support continued investment in our transport infrastructure.** High levels of economic activity within the county and the wider region mean that we often face congestion challenges, which can themselves threaten future growth. In the context of our green economy objectives in Priority 4, we will invest in transport connectivity, invest in electric charging points as well as increasing the resilience of the existing network and promoting sustainable travel options

Emerging Growth Proposition 2: Housing and Infrastructure

We recognise the need for a greater diversity of housing supply to support the needs of a balanced population, in the context of our ageing population and significant environmental constraints on growth.

We will seek to work with Homes England and with District and Borough Councils to deliver accelerated volumes of affordable homes across the county, especially to support young people and key worker retention, and we will work with planning authorities and with developers to identify where constraints on bringing forward planned growth can be sustainably addressed.

Alongside this, we need to invest to overcome infrastructure constraints. We will:

- Work with Government to secure freedoms and flexibilities that will support new local sustainable transport systems.
- Through our emerging Digital Strategy, work with Government to jointly bring forward a strategic digital infrastructure programme.
- Complete a fundamental review of our current highways infrastructure.

Emerging Growth Proposition 3: Reinvigorating town centres

The economics of our town centres are changing. We will embrace that change, ensuring that we have vibrant centres that meet the needs of future communities and businesses. We will investigate investing in a new live-commerce platform for Surrey and explore the 'hyper-local' towns concept, working with partners

Priority 3: Maximising opportunities

- 3.8** Although Surrey's future should be driven by an increasingly high-value, increasingly digitised economy, our economic 'system' will need to remain diverse: direct personal services, for example, are vitally important, and will become more so in the context of our ageing population and growing health and social care demand.
- 3.9** Through our emerging **Strategic Skills and Inclusion Framework** we will work with the further education sector, other education providers and employers to enable the skills system to more effectively respond to employer demand at all levels, so that everyone can benefit from growth.
- 3.10** In the shorter term, it is clear that **some people and businesses will be significantly impacted by the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic**, and it is highly likely that unemployment will rise over the coming months. Through the Employment and Skills Board, we will work to mitigate the consequences of the crisis on the labour market, working closely with DWP to promote take-up of the suite of employment schemes that the Government has launched, and we will seek to learn from the response to inform our future actions.

Emerging Growth Proposition 4: Supporting skills and employment

Building on the Strategic Skills and Inclusion Framework and the work of the Surrey Employment and Skills Board, we will develop a better co-ordinated approach to the skills and employment landscape, especially focused on meeting *future* employment need.

In the medium term, we will develop a business case for a **whole Surrey Employment Programme**, working with DWP, DfE and employers to identify and pilot new approaches.

Ultimately, this may lead to devolution of the Adult Education Budget to support a better targeted focus on skills for the industries and technologies of the future, and further flexibilities in the design and delivery of Apprenticeships.

Priority 4: Green economy

- 3.11** In Surrey, we have declared a climate emergency, and through **Surrey's Greener Future**, we have set out a strategy to achieve net zero carbon by 2050, focused on transport, waste and consumer habits, building resilience and housing and development. To achieve the overall 2050 target, Surrey's Greener Future sets out a series of ambitious intermediate milestones
- 3.12** Achieving these milestones presents an economic opportunity: firms that are in the vanguard of carbon reduction are likely to reduce costs and develop future-proofed solutions. As part of our approach to innovation and economic clusters (Priorities 1 and 2), we will support the development of the low carbon and environmental goods and services sector and the wider adoption of lower carbon technologies.

Emerging Growth Proposition 5: Achieving Surrey's Greener Future

We will achieve the ambitions of Surrey's Greener Future

To achieve this, all of the initiatives set out in the preceding Growth Propositions will drive our carbon reduction goals and support the development of a greener economy as a core part of their business cases. For example:

- Surrey County Council's £1bn capital and infrastructure programme will be focused on supporting greener growth as central to its 'business as usual' mandate
- Business support, advice and innovation activities (as described in Growth Proposition 1) will align to lower carbon activity, support for greener innovation and transition to more sustainable products and processes
- Support for employment and skills will support Surrey residents to take up the 4,000 jobs in the low emission vehicles and infrastructure opportunities projected for 2030, as well as the changing skills required to support transition and adaption across the economy.'

4. Moving forward

Developing key actions

4.1 As the previous chapter set out, we have identified a range of action areas – and some bold propositions – that will help us to address the challenges and opportunities that the Hammond Commission and the wider evidence base set out. Much of what we will deliver will be driven and resourced by us directly but there are other areas of ambition which will require strong partnerships and aligned resources. We look forward to developing these additional programmes over the coming months.

4.2 At this stage, our actions are at relatively high level. However, there are already many plans in place and more in development: building on these, we propose a three-stage process to take forward the ambitions that we have set out:

- **Stage 1: Inviting ideas, collaboration and challenge.** First, we welcome partners' views on the actions and approach that we have set out. In particular:
 - Are there any additional areas of focus that are important to the future of Surrey's economy, but which we have not yet identified?
 - Where are there opportunities for partners to work together to explore the action areas and emerging Growth Propositions that we have set out?
 - Where are there opportunities for commercial approaches to meeting our ambitions, securing greater leverage and/ or establishing solutions that can capture a financial return on investment, as well as a social and economic return?
 - Are there other innovative ideas that could contribute to our ambitions?
- **Stage 2: Developing actions and propositions.** We recognise that any investment proposition, or proposal for devolution or flexibilities, will require a clear business case, with the aim of securing private investment where possible. To support this, we will, in parallel with partner discussions, commission specific work to understand in detail market opportunities, challenges and the case and options for intervention.
- **Stage 3: Developing the longer-term partnership strategy:** As business cases are developed and as we move out of the current pandemic, we will prepare a longer-term economic strategy for Surrey, supporting the case for further discussions with Government and other partners, and providing a 'blueprint' for our activities over the coming decade.

Indicative targets

4.3 In parallel, we will develop a series of indicative measures of success, building on the baseline work commissioned in 2019 and sources such as the Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index. These need to be tested to ensure that they are robust and achievable, and we also need to consider the potential contribution that local action can make, given the range of other variables impacting on the economy. However, indicative measurements of success include:

- Increased productivity (i.e. gross value added per filled job/ hour worked) (e.g. an ambition for a 2% annual increase to 2030)
- Business survival (e.g. ensuring that Surrey's survival rates are in the top 10% nationally)
- Employment (e.g. reducing unemployment to pre-Covid levels by 2025)
- Town centre occupancy (e.g. ensuring that occupancy levels remain above 85% in all key town centres)
- Resident and workplace earnings (e.g. median earnings rising in line with or above inflation)
- Digital connectivity (e.g. % of businesses and households able to access ultrafast connectivity)
- Business and Higher Education expenditure on R&D
- Housing delivery relative to planned growth
- Reduced GHG emissions in line with 2025 target

We would welcome stakeholder views on indicative targets and measures of success.

Oversight and governance

4.4 Surrey County Council's leader, Tim Oliver holds the portfolio for Economy and Growth within the Council and will oversee the delivery of the SCC led element of the Strategy Statement including the preparation of an annual progress report to Cabinet.

4.5 Delivery of the bolder ambitions will require collaboration across a range of partners, including Surrey County Council, Surrey Future Board, the 11 Surrey Districts, the Employment and Skills Board, the private sector and our educational institutions. Bringing these stakeholders together, the **One Surrey Growth Board** will provide ongoing oversight and ownership of the additional action areas that we have set out.

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET**

DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF: MR TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

LEAD OFFICER: KATIE STEWART, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBJECT: SURREY LOCAL RESILIENCE FORUM UPDATE ON THE END OF THE EU EXIT TRANSITION PERIOD

ORGANISATION STRATEGY: GROWING THE ECONOMY SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT, TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY, CREATING A GREENER

PRIORITY AREA: FUTURE AND ENABLING RESILIENT AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES.

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) partners and our communities continue to face multiple and complex challenges during the winter of 2020/21. This includes delivering an effective response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, whilst also maintaining the ability to respond to other known risks, including winter flu season and the imminent end of the EU exit transition period.

A report to Cabinet in October provided a comprehensive overview of the Council's own organisational resilience in light of these challenges. This report will specifically provide an update in relation to the work that the Council is doing in collaboration with its LRF partners to plan for the imminent end of the EU exit transition period.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Note the SLRF's planning for the imminent end of the EU exit transition period, and the work being done to minimise risks to business continuity.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Surrey County Council, partners and communities across Surrey continue to face a challenging period over winter 2020/21, requiring robust contingency planning to mitigate potential disruption. As a local authority providing critical services to communities, and in our capacity as a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, we have a responsibility to prepare for threats to business continuity, such as the end of the EU exit transition period, and contribute to multi-agency planning and response.

DETAILS:

Background

1. Surrey County Council (SCC) works alongside other partners through the Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) to coordinate an effective county-wide response to mitigate the impact of disruption to services on residents. The SLRF is a multi-agency partnership of Category 1 responders (Surrey Police, boroughs and districts and Surrey Fire Rescue Service) and Category 2 responders (Highways Agency and utilities companies) which supports the coordination of the planning for, response to and recovery from county-wide emergencies and incidents facing our communities.
2. The response to the Coronavirus pandemic and other identified risks, including exit from the EU, is being overseen by the SLRF Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG). The SCG is managing known risks and threats that have been identified and is being coordinated through a single operational plan under Operation Tarragon. This includes the ongoing response to the Coronavirus pandemic, seasonal health and weather risks, the ongoing threat around terrorism, and of course, the imminent end to the EU exit transition period – the latter being the specific focus of this report.

End of the EU exit transition period

3. Since the referendum result in July 2016, the SLRF has been preparing for the end of the EU exit transition period. Over the last four and a half years as the national picture of what the exit from the EU would look like has developed, the SLRF has been developing and continually refining contingency plans for how partners would accommodate what is expected to be a period of disruption to transport networks, supply chains and workforces as new rules for cross-border trade, communications, and flows of people are implemented.
4. Throughout this period of planning, the SLRF has been using the Government-provided Reasonable Worst-Case Scenarios (RWCS) to support the planning for the end of the EU exit transition period. These assumptions must be treated sensitively and not shared beyond those with a critical need to know in order to inform contingency planning. These assumptions have been amended several times as the national policy direction has evolved over the last few years and through the transition period.
5. With this in mind, it is important for Cabinet to note the ongoing challenge of planning with significant uncertainty about the final policy arrangements agreed by the UK Government with the EU once the transition period ends on 31 December 2020. The SLRF is in regular contact with central government departments, such as the Department for Transport and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), to try to ensure the SLRF has access to the information and modelling needed to plan effectively and minimise any negative impact on services.
6. Although the specific assumptions in the RWCS cannot be shared, an overview of the risks and contingency plans in place, based on the RWCS as understood at November 2020, is outlined below. These risks include:

Disruption in supply chains

7. Supply chains across a number of SLRF partners and services, including the Council's own services, face the potential for disruption following the end of the transition period – arising both from the legal ramifications of whatever arrangements

are agreed between the UK Government and the EU, but also potential transport network disruptions, should there be any issues at the border as HGVs transporting goods and services face potential delays from new arrangements at international ports.

8. The main risks posed by the end of the EU exit transition period to the supply of services, are the potential disruption to the following supply chains:
 - **Medicines and other medical supplies.** Such supplies are vital not only to health partners, but to the Council's own social care services as well, and this has come to light during the ongoing response to COVID-19. At a national level, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the NHS are working together to ensure that the supply of medicines and other medical supplies is continued to be provided. To support this, the SLRF is working with regional and local partners to ensure a resilient supply chain.
 - **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).** As Cabinet will be very aware, over the course of the response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the importance of PPE has risen dramatically, and it is vital that a robust supply chain is in place to support the increased demand for such materials. An SLRF Logistics Cell will remain in place for the duration of the Coronavirus pandemic with a prioritisation schedule ready should there be a long term shortage of PPE. In addition, the SLRF has secured a six-week supply of PPE to provide continuity in the supply of these critical materials should there be a disruption following the end of the EU exit transition period.
 - **Other supply chains.** Other supply chains are also being actively reviewed by the SLRF and the Council, given that these contractors play a vital role in our day to day service delivery. Services within the Council are actively working with SCC's procurement team to ensure that adequate contingencies are in place to provide continuity of service in the event of disruption following the end of the transition period.

Impact on information sharing

9. The normal flow of data from EU countries may be affected if the EU strictly implements third country controls.
10. The EU is conducting a data adequacy assessment of the UK. If the EU grants positive adequacy decisions by 1 January 2021, it would mean that personal data can flow freely from the EU/EEA to the UK, as it does now, without any action by organisations. The EU has yet to decide as to whether they accept that the UK's data protection regime is still adequate. This means there is a need to act now in order to keep personal data flowing lawfully and to work with EU/EEA organisations who transfer personal data to put in place alternative transfer mechanisms.
11. MHCLG has written to the council with interim guidance and the SLRF expects additional guidance to be provided very soon. The current advice is that from 1 January 2021, organisations may need to have an alternative transfer mechanism, such as Standard Contractual Clauses, in place with EU/EEA counterparts to ensure and organisations can keep personal data flowing lawfully from EU/EEA organisations. Therefore partners, including the Council, are working with services and suppliers to ensure that these contingency measures are in place to ensure continuity of data flow post the transition period.

12. There are currently no changes to the way you send personal data to the EU/EEA, Gibraltar and other countries deemed adequate by the EU.

Potential impact on travel, freight and borders

13. There may be customs delays for HGVs travelling to Europe, leading to delays in freight movements, and potential knock on impacts in the form of congestion emanating out from the ports.
14. The SLRF are continuing to engage with the Department for Transport (DfT) to ensure it has the most up to date estimates and modelling of the likely traffic scenarios arising in and around the ports in the counties bordering Surrey. This is to ensure that the county can prepare robust contingency plans to keep the county moving, should there be disruption post the transition period. The Council is working closely with the SLRF to push the DfT to support a more coordinated response to the potential impacts from such disruption, as well as engaging with Highways England (HE) to seek to coordinate this management of the network across Surrey's network and the HE's Strategic Road Network (SRN).
15. The SLRF have specifically requested the following information to enable this planning to be finalised over the coming weeks:
 - further detail concerning the Kent HGV Access Plans and any impact for Surrey;
 - an assessment of the impact on Surrey from freight movements to and from the ports (sea and air) and how this will be coordinated;
 - clarity around the Statutory Instrument that has been issued for Kent and whether this can be extended to Surrey for certain situations to support contingency planning; and
 - a shared contingency plan between central government and Surrey partners to respond to known risks.
16. For their part, HE has confirmed that during the Christmas and New Year period, their seasonal planning will come into force, including the management of any EU exit impacts. This will include a national communication campaign to promote the 'prepare for your journey' messaging. Where possible, road works will cease and the roads will be cleared, although where major schemes are being delivered, and it is safe to do so, the works will need to remain in place.

Impacts on residents

17. The end of the EU exit transition period risks increasing food and energy prices, which will impact vulnerable residents the most. Meeting the physical and mental health needs of vulnerable residents, and protecting against financial hardship, remains a strategic priority for the SCG. In the short term, the Covid Winter Grant scheme will provide extra financial support for vulnerable families in Surrey.
18. There is also a risk of demonstrations and disorder, which is being proactively monitored by Surrey Police as part of their routine operations.

Impacts on SCC services

19. Finally, although covered in the October Cabinet report, it is worth emphasising and reminding Cabinet that SCC services have been working together to continually refine their business continuity plans in light of the above risks. The Council's Corporate Resilience Group (CRG) continues to provide strategic oversight to this planning, alongside which an Operational Group was stood up in February 2020 to coordinate the ongoing tactical response to the full range of business continuity risks identified in paragraphs 7 to 16. This Ops Group provides, and will continue to provide, a capacity to dynamically respond to specific threats to the ongoing provision of Council services to residents through to the end of the EU exit transition period.

CONSULTATION:

20. Partner organisations have been consulted through the SCG of the SLRF and the associated working groups as part of the Surrey Emergency Response Plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

21. This paper is focused on the risks identified regarding the end of the EU exit transition period. However, SCC services are working together at CRG to ensure our business continuity plans are up to date and reflect the current risks, during an uncertain period. EU exit is one of a number of risks that we may see over the winter period, alongside the current response to COVID-19. The work underway to mitigate against these risks include:
- On behalf of CLT, the Executive Director for Environment, Transport and Infrastructure is leading on the organisation's corporate resilience and winter planning.
 - Procurement continue to provide a review of the resilience of the supply chain.
 - The CRG has overseen the exercising of service business continuity plans against given scenarios.
 - HR have continued to provide support to identified resource requests via the Mobilisation Team.
 - IT&D are continuing to monitor and defend our IT systems against any cyber threat to protect front line services and the ability of staff to work remotely.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

22. Although significant progress has been made over the last twelve months to improve the Council's financial position, the medium-term financial outlook is uncertain. The public health crisis has resulted in increased costs which may not be fully funded in the current year. With uncertainty about the ongoing impact of this and no clarity on the extent to which both central and local funding sources might be affected from next year onward, our working assumption is that financial resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term.

23. To date, the activities and associated costs of the SLRF response to the pandemic have been met from existing budgets and government grants across the partnership. However, the future financial implications arising from this convergence of multiple challenges are unknown. Finance will continue to monitor the situation and to develop plans to manage financial implications as they emerge. These will be reported as and when appropriate.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

24. The update and plans referred to in the body of the report are further to duties placed on the County Council and its partners in the SLRF under Part 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. to collectively plan for and respond as appropriate to civil emergencies in the region.

Equalities and Diversity

25. When there is clarity around the terms of exit from the EU, an Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken to identify and mitigate any potential negative impact on protected groups.
26. Under the Equality Act 2010, race is considered a protected characteristic – this includes nationality. Exiting the EU will have a disproportionate impact on EU nationals so the council will need to understand the impact on affected residents and staff as the exit terms become clearer.
27. More widely, should any modifications need to be made to services as a result of any of the risks outlined in this report being realised, Equality Impact Assessments would be completed to ensure that the impacts of such changes on protected groups are understood and mitigated.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

28. The Council, in conjunction with the SLRF, will:
- Continue to monitor and plan for risks associated with the end of the EU exit transition period.
 - Continue to seek information and clarification from DfT on the aspects contained in this report.
 - Continue to refine business continuity plans to ensure the readiness of services to respond to the end of the EU exit transition period.

Contact Officer:

Ian Good, Head of Emergency Management, Ian.Good@surreycc.gov.uk, 020 8541 9168

Consulted:

Consultation is ongoing due to the nature of the SLRF with partner organisations through the Strategic Coordinating Group and the associated working groups as part of the Surrey Emergency Response Plan.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2020****REPORT OF: MRS JULIE ILES, CABINET MEMBER FOR ALL-AGE LEARNING****LEAD OFFICER: LIZ MILLS, DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND CULTURE****SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN PUBLIC REPORT REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT THE DELIVERY OF HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT****ORGANISATION EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES STRATEGY PRIORITY AREA:****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report concerns the findings of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (the Ombudsman) in response to a complaint concerning the service provided to a Surrey family. The Council was found at fault for the handling of Y's post 16 school transport arrangements in 2019 causing Mrs X and her son Y injustice.

As the Ombudsman has found that maladministration causing injustice has occurred, under Section 31(2) of the Local Government Act 1974, the report must be laid before the authority concerned. The Ombudsman welcomed the Council's willingness to reflect on his findings to inform future improvements.

The Council has accepted the recommendations of the Ombudsman. The Council will pay a total of £2650 for reimbursement of costs, distress, uncertainty, time and trouble. for the complainant in pursuing the complaint. It will also apologise to the family, invite families who were receiving travel assistance from September 2018 to September 2019 to make a retrospective application for transport if necessary, to make sure another family does not have the same experience.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Consider the Ombudsman's report and the steps that will be taken by the Service to address the findings, and
2. Consider whether any other action should be taken.
3. Note that the Monitoring Officer will be bringing his report to the attention of all councillors.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

There is a statutory requirement for the Monitoring Office to bring to Members' attention any public report issued by the Ombudsman about the Council which identifies it is at fault and has caused injustice as a result.

DETAILS:

1. The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman has investigated a complaint made by a parent of a child with special educational needs. A report into the investigation was published on 2 December. The identity of the family in question is not made publicly available and the Ombudsman refers to the parent as 'Mrs X' in this report, and her son as 'Y'.
2. Mrs X complains the Council failed to tell her in 2019 that she had to apply for post 16 transport for her son, Y. She says Y previously received school transport under his Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Mrs X says she incurred taxi costs of £2400 while awaiting the Council's transport provision and Y missed the start of school.
3. Y was due to move to post 16 education in September 2019. Mrs X was told by the Council that Y would be able to stay at the same school for sixth form and free transport would continue. The Council acknowledges that it referred to transport in Y's annual review, however it had been the Council's policy since 2018 that all families had to reapply for transport once their child reached the end of year 11.
4. Mrs X says she was unaware of the policy or the need to reapply as she had not done so in the past and the Council did not make her aware of this. The SEND caseworker had previously arranged transport without any input from her.
5. Mrs X was informed by the Council that she would need to apply for transport and to make alternative arrangements whilst the application was being processed. Mrs X applied on 4 September and transport was in place by 2 October. This was within the service level agreement.
6. On 14 September Mrs X made a formal complaint to the Council which was escalated through the process. The stage two review explained that it was up to parents to apply for school transport and so it did not agree it was at fault. However, it accepted that it should be more proactive in communications with parent. The Council recommended that SEND case officers remind parents of the requirements of the Transport Policy, for example, during transition through key stages in future. It told Mrs X to contact the LGSCO if she remained unhappy.
7. In response to enquiries, the Council said it wrote to post 16 students who were already receiving transport in 2018/19 and needed to know to reapply for 2019/20. However, it did not write to the families of children in Year 11 because, under its policy, these families would have to reapply in any event. This was not a change of policy for 2019 and it had been the case since 2018 that families had to reapply once their child reached the end of Year 11.

8. The Council accepted it could have made the process clearer for Mrs X. It apologised and offered to reimburse them £2,400 for the taxi costs and pay £150 as a goodwill gesture. It also explained it would review the operational procedure of how the SEND Transport Policy can be shared to facilitate awareness and inform families of their obligations.
9. This complaint dates back to events that took place in 2019. The Service is aware that further improvement is required and has begun an end to end review of its home to school transport process. The review will be used to ensure the process for families and young people is customer focused and an efficient service.
10. In accordance with statutory requirements, Surrey County Council will place public notices about the Ombudsman's public report in the *Surrey Mirror* and the *Surrey Advertiser*.

CONSULTATION:

11. The Chief Executive and S151 Officer have been consulted on this report in accordance with the statutory requirements.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

12. The Ombudsman findings highlight service failures that caused injustice to a vulnerable child and his family. Staff training and ensuring families are aware of the need to reapply will be delivered to prevent a recurrence of these issues.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

13. The Council will pay £2,650 to the family as recommended by the Ombudsman.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

14. The Section 151 Officer confirms that the payment to the family can be met from existing budgets. There are no further material financial implications regarding the matters raised in this paper.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

15. The Ombudsman has made a finding of fault (described in law as maladministration) causing injustice. The inadequacies identified include failures on the part of Children's Services to comply with statutory duties placed upon them. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 places a duty on the Monitoring Officer to report these findings to the Cabinet and draw his report to the attention of each Member of the Council.
16. Ombudsman's recommendations are not legally enforceable although it is extremely unusual for an authority not to accept them. In this instance Officers have accepted the findings of the Ombudsman, agreed to pay the amounts recommended as compensation and have agreed to make an apology.

Equalities and Diversity

17. The Council has to have due regard to its equality duties under the Equality Act 2010 and to consider the impact of its decisions and actions on individuals with protected characteristics. Particularly relevant here are the characteristics of disability and age (in so far as this concerns a young person with special educational needs). The duties relating to special educational needs are enshrined in law to ensure that such children get the support that they require to help them with their education. Members will no doubt wish to consider whether there are any other lessons to learn to avoid any future similar adverse impact on children with disabilities, those who care for them and their families. The potential implications for the following council priorities and policy areas have been considered. Where the impact is potentially significant a summary of the issues is set out in detail below.

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report.
Environmental sustainability	No significant implications arising from this report.
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- An apology letter will be sent to the family by 1 December 2020 and the recommended financial redress payment will be paid.
- Contact to families to make them aware they can make a retrospective claim will be completed by 1 April 2021.
- A report of the Cabinet's response to the Ombudsman's recommendations will be produced and sent to all Members and to the Ombudsman.
- The matter will be reported to the council for it to note.

Contact Officer:

Jo Lang, Service Manager – Customer Engagement, 07896 998796

Consulted:

See paragraph 10 above.

Annexes:

Annex 1- Report of the Local Government Ombudsman - Reference number: 19 016
358

Sources/background papers:

None

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**Report by the Local Government and Social Care
Ombudsman**

12

**Investigation into a complaint against
Surrey County Council
(reference number: 19 016 358)**

4 November 2020

The Ombudsman's role

For more than 40 years the Ombudsman has independently and impartially investigated complaints. We effectively resolve disputes about councils and other bodies in our jurisdiction by recommending redress which is proportionate, appropriate and reasonable based on all the facts of the complaint. Our service is free of charge.

Each case which comes to the Ombudsman is different and we take the individual needs and circumstances of the person complaining to us into account when we make recommendations to remedy injustice caused by fault.

We have no legal power to force councils to follow our recommendations, but they almost always do. Some of the things we might ask a council to do are:

- > apologise
- > pay a financial remedy
- > improve its procedures so similar problems don't happen again.

Section 30 of the 1974 Local Government Act says that a report should not normally name or identify any person. The people involved in this complaint are referred to by a letter or job role.

Key to names used

Mrs X	The complainant
Y	Her son

Report summary

School Transport

Mrs X complains the Council failed to tell her she had to apply for post 16 transport for her son, Y, causing her financial loss and Y to miss the start of school.

Finding

We find the Council at fault in its handling of Y's post 16 school transport arrangements causing Mrs X and Y injustice and we have made recommendations.

Recommendations

The Council must consider the report and confirm within three months the action it has taken or proposes to take. The Council should consider the report at its full Council, Cabinet or other appropriately delegated committee of elected members and we will require evidence of this. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 31(2), as amended*)

In addition to the requirements set out above the Council has agreed to carry out the following actions within three months of the date of this report.

- Provide Mrs X with a written apology.
- Pay Mrs X £2,400 to reimburse taxi costs.
- Pay Mrs X £150 for distress and uncertainty.
- Pay Mrs X £100 for time and trouble.
- Write to the family of any young person with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) who was receiving travel assistance before a move into further education from September 2018 up to and including September 2019. The letter should refer to this public report and invite families to make a retrospective application for transport if necessary. If a decision is/has since been reached that the Council should provide travel assistance, it should reimburse any transport costs incurred by the families upon satisfactory evidence.
- Take action to ensure the Council tells parents of children in Year 11 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to apply for post 16 transport going forward and, inform us of the action taken to achieve this.

The complaint

1. Mrs X complains the Council failed to tell her she had to apply for post 16 transport for her son, Y. She says Y previously received school transport under his Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Mrs X says she incurred taxi costs of £2,400 while awaiting the Council's transport provision and Y missed the start of school.

Legal and administrative background

The Ombudsman's role

2. We investigate complaints about 'maladministration' and 'service failure'. In this report, we have used the word 'fault' to refer to these. We must also consider whether any fault has had an adverse impact on the person making the complaint. We refer to this as 'injustice'. If there has been fault which has caused an injustice, we may suggest a remedy. (*Local Government Act 1974, sections 26(1) and 26A(1), as amended*)
3. We may investigate matters coming to our attention during an investigation, if we consider that a member of the public who has not complained may have suffered an injustice as a result. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 26D and 34E, as amended*)
4. The law says we cannot normally investigate a complaint unless we are satisfied the council knows about the complaint and has had an opportunity to investigate and reply. However, we may decide to investigate if we consider it would be unreasonable to notify the council of the complaint and give it an opportunity to investigate and reply. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 26(5)*)
5. Under the information sharing agreement between the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted), we will share this report with Ofsted.

The Council's Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2019-20

6. The Council published a policy statement for 2019-20 with information about the schemes and support available for school and college transport for learners aged 16 to 19. This refers to the Council's Travel Assistance Policy for Children and Young People with an EHCP or SEN: 0-25 years. (SEN refers to a Statement of Special Educational Needs.)
7. Section 8 of the Transport Policy Statement sets out how to apply for transport support as follows.
 - Apply online at the link provided for the Student Fare Card scheme.
 - Download the application form at the link provided for home to school/college transport.
 - For those with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability), contact the SEND caseworker. Appropriate transport will be identified within the EHCP, at some point during the final transition year.
8. The Council's Post 16 Transport Policy statement 2020-21 no longer says those with SEND should contact their SEND caseworker, but instead says they should apply for home to school/college transport.

The Council's Travel Assistance Policy for Children and Young People with an EHCP or SEN: 0-25 years (September 2019)

9. The Council published a Travel Assistance Policy for 2019 which says it came into effect in September 2018. This says, for those continuing in education and training post 16:
 - where there is a current entitlement to travel assistance, this will continue until, the end of the academic year in which the young person turns 16; and
 - where a pupil who has previously been assessed as eligible for travel assistance remains at the school named in their EHCP beyond their 16th birthday, the Council will ordinarily continue to arrange their transport until the end of the academic year in which they turn 19. However, current entitlement does not indicate future entitlement, and pupils in Year 11 staying on in education will need to reapply for travel assistance yearly. Where a young person changes school/college after 16, they will also need to reapply for travel assistance each year.

How we considered this complaint

10. We have produced this report after examining relevant documents and speaking to the complainant.
11. We gave the complainant and the Council a confidential draft of this report and invited their comments. We considered the comments received before we finalised the report.

What we found

What happened

12. Mrs X's son, Y, attended a special school for children with autism. Mrs X says she did not apply for home to school transport for Y at any time, rather a SEND caseworker arranged this. The Council provided a taxi to take Y to and from home to school.
13. The Council has provided a copy of Y's EHCP issued in 2018. We note this does not refer to school transport.
14. Y was due to move from Year 11 on to post 16 education from September 2019. Mrs X says the Council agreed Y could continue at the same school for sixth form and it would continue to provide free transport.
15. The Council held Y's EHCP Annual Review meeting in January 2019. Of relevance to this case, the meeting minutes say:
 - Y's existing provision includes additional local educational authority support: transport to and from school; and
 - recommendations for the coming year include "daily transport to and from school to continue".
16. In response to enquiries the Council acknowledged it referred to transport at the Annual Review but did not provide details on the practical steps the family should take to apply. However, it had been the Council's policy since 2018 that families had to reapply for transport once their child got to the end of Year 11.

-
17. Mrs X says she was unaware of the Council's policy or any need to apply, as she had not done so in the past and the Council did not make her aware of this. The SEND caseworker had previously arranged transport without any input from her.
18. Y was due to start school on 5 September 2019.
19. On 4 September Y's usual taxi company told Mrs X the Council had cancelled its service. Mrs X immediately contacted the Council and applied for school transport assistance.
20. On 5 September Mrs X emailed the Council asking it to process her application urgently. She said it had not told her she had to apply for travel assistance; a taxi from home to school was part of Y's EHCP and Y was now missing school.
21. The Council responded to say it could not prioritise her application. It was sorry she was not told to reapply, but parents had to reapply at each key stage.
22. Mrs X told the Council she was at a disadvantage due to its failure to tell her to reapply and asked how long the process would take.
23. The Council warned it could take some weeks to process her application and then 10 days to arrange transport after approval. Therefore, she should make other arrangements for the foreseeable future.
24. In response to enquiries the Council explained it received Mrs X's application for travel assistance on 4 September and processed this by 23 September, within three weeks. It can take a further 10 days to put in place travel arrangements and it provided transport from 2 October 2019.
25. Mrs X made a formal complaint to the Council, received by the Council on 15 September. In summary she said:
- the Council cancelled Y's transport without notice;
 - the taxi company rather than the Council told her the day before Y was due to start school;
 - at Y's Annual Review the Council agreed transport would continue;
 - the Council did not tell her she had to apply for transport;
 - it is not possible for her or her husband to take Y to school; and
 - Y will miss school until transport can be arranged.
26. The Council responded on 14 October. In summary it said:
- the SEND transport policy makes clear transport will continue until the year in which the child turns 16;
 - due to the number of children moving to post 16 education and the policy indicating parents need to reapply, it does not separately tell parents to reapply; and
 - it has referred her concerns about the information provided during the Annual Review to another team.
27. Mrs X complained further on 14 October. In summary she said:
- she had not applied for transport in the past; the SEND caseworker arranged this. So, she was unaware of any policy to apply for transport;
 - the Council should not have responded to her before hearing from the SEND team.

-
- her family has incurred significant financial loss, time and stress due to having to arrange and fund transport themselves; and
 - her son also suffered upheaval due to missing the first few days of school.
28. The Council provided a stage 2 response on 16 December. It explained it was up to parents to apply for school transport and so it did not agree it was at fault. However, it accepted it should be more proactive in communications with parents. The Council would recommend SEND case officers remind parents of the requirements of the Transport Policy, for example, during transition through education 'stages', in future. It told Mrs X to contact us if she remained unhappy.
29. Mrs X told us she paid £120 a day for a taxi for Y, while awaiting the Council to decide her application and arrange transport. In total she paid £2,400, using the same taxi company the Council would usually book. Mrs X also provided a copy of an invoice from the taxi company evidencing this.
30. In response to enquiries, the Council said it wrote to post 16 students who were already receiving transport in 2018/19 and needed to know to reapply for 2019/20. However, it did not write to the families of children in Year 11 because, under its policy, these families would have to reapply in any event. This was not a change of policy for 2019 and it had been the case since 2018 that families had to reapply once their child reached the end of Year 11.
31. The Council accepted it could have made the process clearer for Mr and Mrs X. It apologised and offered to reimburse them £2,400 for the taxi costs and pay £150 as a goodwill gesture. It also explained it would review the operational procedure of how the SEND Transport Policy can be shared to facilitate awareness and inform families of their obligations.

Conclusions

32. It is reasonable to expect the Council to discuss school transport arrangements as part of transition planning for post 16 education under the EHCP review process. The Council's Transport Policy statement in effect at the time also told parents this would happen. And, during Y's EHCP review meeting, it was recommended, "daily transport to and from school to continue", giving Mrs X the impression school transport would continue as before. However, despite this policy and practice, the Council did not go on to confirm Y's school transport arrangements with Mrs X during the EHCP review process. This is fault.
33. Because of the Council's fault, Mrs X found out Y had no transport in place just one day prior to his starting school. This would have caused a great deal of distress and uncertainty to them both and it caused Y to miss the first few days of school. Further, Mrs X then had to pay for transport while awaiting the Council's arrangements, at significant cost. We recommend the Council remedy this personal injustice.
34. Having reviewed the complaint correspondence exchanged, we find the Council's stage 1 response missed the point Mrs X was making that she was unaware of any need to apply for transport. And the Council delayed providing its stage 2 response. This amounts to fault putting Mrs X to avoidable time and trouble in the complaints process. We recommend the Council remedy this further personal injustice.
35. The Council says families have had to reapply for school transport at the end of year 11 since 2018, however it has not explained how it made families aware of

this and its Transport Policy Statement 2019-20 contradicts this. Further and in any event, it is likely that parents whose children have an EHCP did not previously have to apply for transport and so would not be aware to review any relevant policies or apply unless the Council told them. We are therefore concerned other families may have suffered injustice and we recommend the Council take action to remedy this.

36. In response to our draft report the Council explains the Travel Assistance Policy for 2019 was an updated version of its 2018 policy. And, although the 2018 policy indicated parents had to reapply at the end of Year 11; this did not happen in practice before 2019. Instead students at the same placement had their transport continued, or the SEND caseworker would take it forward if the young person was changing school or college. This changed in 2019, when the requirement for a parent/carer to apply for transport at the end of Year 11 was enacted and put into effect. As a result, the Council considers it extremely unlikely that young people moving into further education in September 2018 would have been impacted by the issues highlighted in the draft report.
37. It acknowledges it did not tell Mrs X personally of the need to reapply for transport however there were general communications to parents. It issued a SEND newsletter in February 2019 which told parents they must apply for travel assistance if their child was starting a new key stage (Reception, Year 3, 7 or 12). It also provided information on its Local Offer website.
38. The Council says in July 2020 it sent a reminder letter directly to parents of children in Year 11 in receipt of SEND travel assistance to say they had to reapply if their child was continuing in education. It therefore suggests any injustice is limited to those families with children moving onto further education in September 2019 only.
39. The Council confirms it has already taken action to ensure parents know to apply for post 16 transport going forward, as recommended in the draft report. It says information is available on the main Council and Local Offer websites and a letter is now also sent directly to parents/carers of those in Year 11 receiving travel assistance. In addition, the nature of its communications with families around home to school/college transport, particularly for those with an EHCP, will form part of its review of the whole process. As always, it will reflect on the findings of the investigation to help inform ongoing improvement work.
40. Having reviewed the Council's comments, we are concerned there was a discrepancy between policy and practice prior to 2019. This would likely have caused more confusion for parents. And, although the Council says it did not require parents to reapply for transport despite its policy saying they should, we do not know if this was the case. We therefore remain concerned that families may have suffered injustice since 2018.
41. We have reviewed the newsletter issued by the Council in February 2019. We do not know how many parents had access to the newsletter. Further, we do not consider a short paragraph in the middle of a six page newsletter would have provided adequate publicity of the new arrangements. We are unable to review what was available online at the time. We therefore remain concerned that other families may have suffered injustice due to a lack of clear information on the Council's policies.
42. We have reviewed the reminder letter issued by the Council to parents in July 2020. In light of this we are satisfied those families were told to reapply for

transport. If they have had any difficulties they may have cause to complain. However, it is not necessary for the Council to now write to those families informing them how to apply. We have therefore amended our recommendation so the Council no longer needs to contact those parents.

43. We welcome the actions already taken by the Council to prevent recurrence, including its commitment to contact parents/carers directly by letter, as it did in July 2020. We also welcome the Council's willingness to reflect on our findings to inform future improvements.

Recommendations

44. The Council must consider the report and confirm within three months the action it has taken or proposes to take. The Council should consider the report at its full Council, Cabinet or other appropriately delegated committee of elected members and we will require evidence of this. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 31(2), as amended*)
45. In addition to the requirements set out above the Council has agreed to carry out the following actions within three months of the date of this report.
- Provide Mrs X with a written apology.
 - Pay Mrs X £2,400 to reimburse taxi costs.
 - Pay Mrs X £150 for distress and uncertainty.
 - Pay Mrs X £100 for time and trouble.
 - Write to the family of any young person with SEND who was receiving travel assistance before a move into further education from September 2018 up to and including September 2019. The letter should refer to this public report and invite families to make a retrospective application for transport if necessary. If a decision is/has since been reached that the Council should provide travel assistance, it should reimburse any transport costs incurred by the families upon satisfactory evidence.
 - Take action to ensure the Council tells parents of children in Year 11 with an EHCP to apply for post 16 transport going forward and, inform us of the action taken to achieve this.
46. The Council has accepted our recommendations to remedy the complaint.

Decision

47. We have completed our investigation into this complaint. There was fault by the Council which caused injustice to Mrs X and Y and may have caused injustice to others. The Council should take the actions identified in paragraphs 44 and 45 to remedy that injustice.

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE:** 15 DECEMBER 2020**REPORT OF:** MR MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**LEAD OFFICER:** LEIGH WHITEHOUSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR RESOURCES**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN 2021/22

ORGANISATION STRATEGY PRIORITY AREA: GROWING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT/ TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY/ENABLING A GREENER FUTURE/EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The revised Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by the Council in May 2019 require the preparation of an Annual Procurement Forward Plan (APFP) during the business planning cycle. The APFP has been developed for 2021/22 and Cabinet is asked to approve the Plan to allow implementation of the identified procurement activity. The APFP captures a number of projects across all Directorates which will contribute towards delivery of all four of the strategic priority areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Gives Approval to Procure for the projects listed in Annex 1 – “Annual Procurement Forward Plan for 2021/22” in accordance with the Council’s Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.
2. Agrees that where the first ranked tender for any projects listed in Annex 1 is within the +/-5% budgetary tolerance level, the relevant Executive Director, Director or Head of Service (as appropriate) is authorised to award such contracts.
3. Agrees the procurement activity that will be returned to Cabinet for review of the commissioning and procurement strategy prior to going out to market, and which is highlighted in grey in Annex 1.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- To comply with the Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by Council in May 2019.
- To provide Cabinet with strategic oversight of planned procurement projects for 2021/22.
- To ensure Cabinet oversight is focussed on the most significant procurements.
- To avoid the need to submit multiple individual requests for Approval to Procure as well as individual contract award approvals for work taking place in 2021/22.

DETAILS:**Business Case**

1. Annex 1 lists all known projects over £189,330 that are due for procurement in 2021/22 year for each Directorate and Service. This threshold figure is the level at which the council is currently bound by the UK Public Contract Regulations 2015 to advertise in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and conduct a public tender for goods and services. The threshold for works contracts is currently £4,733,252. These projects will be publicised in due time using the established e-procurement platforms. From 1 January 2021 a new e-notification service called Find a Tender will be used to post and view public sector procurement notices. It will replace the requirement to publish notices in the Official Journal of the European Union. Otherwise the existing public procurement regime stays largely the same until any new legislation is introduced by the Government.
2. Annex 1 has been agreed with the relevant Executive Directors, Directors, Heads of Service, Finance and the Strategic Commissioning Unit.
3. Under section 1.6 of the Procurement & Contract Standing Orders (PCSO), Cabinet is asked to approve these forward plans so that they may proceed to procurement without delay and delegate award decisions to Executive Directors, Directors, or Heads of Service provided the tender outcome is within +/-5% of the budget agreed with Finance when each project begins. Any project with a tender outcome not within tolerance will be reported in line with PCSO table 2.7a:
 - Under £1m: S151 Officer
 - Over £1m: S151 Officer and relevant service Portfolio Holder
 - Over £5m: S151 Officer and Cabinet
4. By approving the APFP in this way, there will be no need to gain Approval to Procure for each individual project during 2021/22. This will streamline Cabinet input and ensure focus on the most important projects throughout the year. However, it is likely that unforeseen projects will arise, and officers will need to seek Approval to Procure for these separately.
5. Where significant transformation or material change to the delivery of a commissioned service is proposed, these projects have been identified in grey in Annex 1. Depending on the nature of the changes, public consultation and equality impact assessments may also be necessary. This could also be true for other projects in Annex 1 which currently have not been highlighted. In any situation, the final proposed commissioning strategy and, if applicable, the outcome of any public consultation and equality impact assessment, will be brought back to Cabinet as an exception report for a new Approval to Procure.
6. Whilst the APFP is integral to the business planning cycle, it is not intended to set budgets for coming years, a task which is handled via the council's annual budget report. Where the contractual limits and the available budgetary provision are not in alignment, the lower of the two will generally prevail.

CONSULTATION:

7. Consultation will take place for individual projects as appropriate to the products or services required.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

8. If the Council does not manage the contract renewal programme effectively and efficiently it could lead to a detrimental impact on value for money and required outcomes and benefits from our contracted services. Good forward planning will enable adequate resources and sufficient time are dedicated to ensure appropriate procurement strategies and commercial negotiations to take place. Also, by bringing forward Cabinet approval there will be opportunity for Members to review and influence the plans in advance of any procurements being carried out.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

9. The APFP approach has been designed to facilitate better planning, early engagement and strategic oversight and, therefore, allows for more efficient and effective use of resources to support delivery of commissioning intentions. Further financial and Value for Money implications will be considered on an individual project basis.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

10. Although significant progress has been made over the last twelve months to improve the Council's financial position, the medium-term financial outlook is uncertain. The public health crisis has resulted in increased costs which may not be fully funded in the current year. With uncertainty about the ongoing impact of this and no clarity on the extent to which both central and local funding sources might be affected from next year onward, our working assumption is that financial resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term.
11. The Section 151 Officer supports the Annual Procurement Forward Plan, which sets out the contracts expected to be tendered during the 2021/22 financial year. It remains however, the responsibility of the relevant Executive Director, Director or Head of Service to ensure that any expenditure committed to as a result of these procurements remain within approved budget envelopes and is consistent with the Directorate Commissioning Strategy.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

12. Cabinet is being asked to give formal Approval to Procure for the projects listed in Annex 1 in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders. In making this decision, Cabinet should be cognisant of its fiduciary duty to Surrey residents to ensure services are provided effectively while also maintaining a balanced budget.
13. Notwithstanding Cabinet giving Approval to Procure, officers will have to ensure that the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and any further legislation introduced after the transition Brexit end date on 31st December 2020 are

complied with in relation to any procurements undertaken. Furthermore, commissioners will need to be aware of the 'best value duty' under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 and its requirements on them. It states that the Council "...must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness."

14. For projects where additional statutory duties arise at a later date, for example as a result of a change in commissioning strategy, the Approval to Procure given at this stage will no longer be valid. Once additional statutory requirements have been satisfied, a report will need to return to Cabinet for a new Approval to Procure. Legal Services will advise in relation to any such situations.
15. Cabinet will note that authority to grant Approval to Procure in relation to selected health and social care matters has been delegated to the Council's representatives on the Committee in Common with Surrey's Clinical Commissioning Groups. The relevant projects are included in Annex 1 for information only.

Other Implications:

16. There are no significant implications upon key council priorities and policy areas.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

17. The approved plans will be delivered during the financial year 2020/21.

Contact Officer:

Anna Kwiatkowska, Head of Procurement, Orbis Procurement Service

Consulted:

Service Directors, Finance, Legal, Strategic Commissioning Unit.

Annexes:

Annex 1 - Annual Procurement Forward Plan FY 2021 22
Part 2 Report

Sources/background papers:

Procurement and Contract Standing Orders 2019

Directorate	Number of projects
Corporate Resources	23
Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	8
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	14
Transformation Partnerships & Prosperity	9
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	41
Committee in Common Projects	11
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For information

Corporate Resources

Directorate	Service	Contract Name (over Regulatory Threshold and over £189,330)	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/Revenue/Grant funded/Mixed	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (enter as MM/DD/YY)	To be reserved by Cabinet to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Corporate Resources	Business Operations	SCC Merchant Services (current provider Worldpay)	Provision of Merchant Services	Revenue	48	TBC	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Business Operations	SCC E-Invoicing Supplier Information Management Solutions (currently Taulia)	E-Invoicing and Supplier Information Management Solutions	Revenue	24	18/11/21	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	19/11/21	No
Corporate Resources	Business Operations	Ticket Management System for Business Operations and Surrey Crisis Fund (currently Achiever software)	Ticket Management System for Business Operations and Surrey Crisis Fund (currently Achiever software)	Revenue	48	18/01/22	New Procurement Requirement	Accessing Framework Agreement	18/01/22	No
Corporate Resources	Business Operations	SCC Banking Services (current provider HSBC)	Provision of Banking Services	Revenue	48	TBC	Renewal of Existing	Tender	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	Adults Social Care IT	Potential procurements from digital initiatives within Adults Social Care.	TBC	TBC	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Wide Area Network and Associated Services	Contract for the provision of a Wide Area Network and Associated Services	Mixed	120	30/08/24	Renewal of existing	Tender	31/08/24	Yes
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	Microsoft LSP	New contract with a Microsoft Partner for the provision of Council's enterprise agreements and schools agreements. May also need to include additional Microsoft licensing, e.g. MS Dynamics	Revenue	36	31/05/22	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/06/22	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Integration and Enterprise Data Management Platform	Provision of Boomi Atmosphere subscription for integration and enterprise data management platform and support services.	Revenue	12	04/07/21	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	05/07/21	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Wisdom Support & Maintenance (from Daisy)	Support and Maintenance for Wisdom software and ControCC and protocol Integration. Wisdom extension available ending 30/9/2023	Revenue	60	30/09/21	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/10/21	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	Interim SAP support for retained modules e.g. Business Objects	Archiving solution required for SAP data	Mixed	48	N/A	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/05/21	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Ticket Management System Software	Ticketing management software that links with the Surrey helpdesk and helps log calls and queries.	Revenue	48	31/03/22	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/04/22	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC PT Software Application Solutions (currently Capita SIMS)	2022+ Schools Data Management System. Capita SIMS schools data management system. Cost based on volume of public funded primary and secondary pupils.	Revenue	12	31/03/22	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/04/22	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Data Visualisation Tableau software licences	Data Visualisation - currently Tableau software licences	Revenue	36	27/03/22	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	28/03/22	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	Youth Case Management system	Youth case management system, current provider is Servelec.	Revenue	60	30/06/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/07/21	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	SCC Integrated Web Forms Solution Provision	Web Forms Solution - decision to extend current contract or reprocure	Revenue	48	30/04/22	Renewal of existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/05/22	No
Corporate Resources	IT & Digital	e-brokerage (extend or tender).	e-brokerage social care platform, currently provided by OCC.	Revenue	48	30/09/22	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	30/09/22	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Planned or Reactive Maintenance	Appointment of Consultants or contractors	Capital	12	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Education Building Projects	Appointment of Consultant	Capital	36	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Creation of Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Planned or Reactive Maintenance	Appointment of Consultant or contractor	Revenue	12	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Non Education Building Projects	Appointment of Consultants	Capital	36	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Creation of Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Non Education Building Projects	Feasibility Work	Capital	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Creation of Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	Land and Property	Education Building Projects	Feasibility Work	Capital	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Creation of Framework Agreement	TBC	No

Health Wellbeing and Social Care

Directorate	Service	Contract Name (over Regulatory Threshold and over £189,330)	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/ Revenue/Grant funded/Mixed	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (enter as dd/mm/yy)	To be reserved by Cabinet to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Housing Related Support	Housing Related Support services supporting individuals with Mental Health requirements	Revenue	48	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	01/04/22	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Direct Payments Service	Direct Payments service which includes Carers Support payments. Support services to DP clients	Revenue	60	30/09/21	Replacement with New Service	Tender	01/10/21	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Independent Travel Training	Development of an Independent travel training offer to support individuals with independence skills.	Revenue	48	TBC	New Procurement Requirement	Other	01/04/21	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Care Technology	Development of a new Technology Enabled Care service	Revenue	60	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/22	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Extra Care	Contract for the provision of extra care services at extra care settings	Revenue	48	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	01/10/21	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Extra Care	Extra Care schemes at new sites developed under the Accommodation with Care Strategy	Revenue	72	TBC	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/23	Yes
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Social Inclusion	Planning to move forward with a framework for social inclusion support to support eligible individuals.	Revenue	48	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/01/22	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Outreach Services	Providers supporting Individuals in the Community to live as independent as possible	Revenue	60	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	04/01/21	No

Transformation Partnerships & Prosperity

Directorate	Service	Contract Name (over Regulatory Threshold and over £189,330)	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/ Revenue/Grant funded/Mixed	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (enter as MM/DD/YYYY)	To be reserved by Cabinet to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	SCC Managed Service for Temporary Agency Resources	Managed Service for Temporary Agency Resources, currently provided by Adecco.	Revenue	60	31/01/22	Replacement with a New Service	Tender	31/01/22	Yes
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	3rd HR Route to Market (social workers and interim staff) – NEPO framework	Approval for the on-going use of this route to market to hire interim staff for Financial Year 2021/25	Revenue	12	01/04/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	02/04/21	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	Temporary Care worker workforce	Longer term provision of temporary agency Care workers.	Revenue	12	01/01/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	(11931) HR Route to Market (Interim Staff) – ESPO Strategic HR Services Framework (35)	Approval for the on-going use of this route to market to hire interim staff for Financial Year 2021/22	Revenue	12	01/04/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	02/04/21	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	(11966) 2nd Alternative HR temp and interim staff route to market - YPO (Local Government Resourcing Partnership framework)	Approval for the on-going use of this route to market to hire interim staff for Financial Year 2021/24	Revenue	12	01/04/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	02/04/21	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	(12051) HR Route to Market 2 (Interim Staff) - ESPO Consultancy Services Framework (664)	Approval for the on-going use of this route to market to hire interim staff for Financial Year 2021/23	Revenue	12	01/04/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	02/04/21	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	Temporary Care worker workforce	Provision of temporary agency Care workers. Extension with current provider.	Revenue	6	01/01/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Corporate Resources	HR & Business Services	SCC Provision of Car Leasing Services for SCC Employees	The salary sacrifice scheme for leasing cars to SCC employees.	Revenue	15	30/06/22	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/07/22	No
Corporate Resources	Transformation Team	Transformation Programme - Consultancy services to support major programmes in the agreed 21/22 portfolio	Transformation Programme - potential requirement for Consultancy services to support aspects of the priority programmes that are agreed and funded as part of the MTF5 21/22 onwards. This could include specialist consultancy and interim staffing.	TBC	TBC	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No

Childrens Families Lifelong Learning and Culture

Directorate	Service	Contract Name (over Regulatory Threshold and over £189,330)	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/ Revenue/Grant funded/Mixed	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (enter as dd/mm/yy)	To be reserved by Cabinet to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	South Central Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA) Framework	The IFA South Central Framework is a consortium of 14 Local Authorities established by Southampton City Council in 2017 to support local authorities within the region to purchase foster care from IFA's (Independent Fostering Agencies)	Revenue	48 months	31/03/22	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/04/22	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	Supported Accommodation (16+ & Care Leavers)	A SCC DPS & block contracts have been put in place for Supported Accommodation providers – providing services for children & young people, including looked after children aged 16 & 17, care leavers (18+) and young people at risk of homelessness	Revenue	48 months	31/03/22	Renewal of Existing	Dynamic Purchasing System	44652	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	Children's Residential Parenting Assessments (RPA's)	Residential parenting assessments conducted in Residential Family Centres are intended to provide robust, fair and evidence based assessments of parenting skills and capability for local authorities and the courts .	Revenue	48 months	30/04/21	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	TBC	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	SCC Houses of Multiple Occupancy	Developing a new accommodation pathway of Houses of Multiple Occupancy for young people who are 18+ unaccompanied asylum seekers and care leavers looking to move to more independent living. This represents a more cost effective alternative to Supported Accommodation where appropriate, which many other LAs make use of.	Revenue	36 months	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	SCC Interpretation and Translation Services	Professional translation, interpreting, bi-lingual advocacy and hearing impairment interpreting services.	Revenue	48 months	28/02/21	Replacement with New Service	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/09/21	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Corporate Parenting	SCC Attendance and Monitoring for Looked After Children Service Welfare Call	Monitoring the attendance of Looked After Children in schools.	Revenue	48 months	31/07/21	Replacement with New Service	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/08/21	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Family Resilience	Domestic Abuse Outreach	Providing support to children and young people that have witnessed domestic abuse. Preventative work in schools and youth settings regarding healthy relationships. Part of DA Outreach recommission for Jan 2020	Revenue	48 months	31/03/22	Replacement with New Service	Light Touch Regime	01/04/22	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Family Resilience	SCC Early Help	The Early Help contract has been tendered through a mini- competition off the Early Help DPS. Early Help services are there to support families within their local communities through an early help offer that enables them to achieve positive outcomes as described in Surrey's Early Help outcomes framework by recognising and building upon their strengths and developing their resilience. This covers Surrey Care Trust and YMCA East Surrey.	Revenue	51 months	31/03/22	Renewal of Existing	Accessing Framework Agreement	01/04/22	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Family Resilience	Surrey Appropriate Adults Volunteer Service (SAAVS)	Surrey Appropriate Adult Volunteer Service (SAAVS) offers support to vulnerable adults and young people who find themselves detained in Police custody.	Grant Funded	60 months	31/03/21	Renewal of Existing	Light Touch Regime	01/04/21	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Family Resilience	Refuge for victims of Domestic Abuse and their children	Providing housing support to women and children who are at immediate risk of domestic abuse.	Revenue	Rolling Contracts	21/03/22	Replacement with New Service	Light Touch Regime	44642	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Health	Personal Support DPS	SCC has a statutory duty to support disabled children, young people and their families with short breaks. Personal support services are part of the overall short breaks offer, providing care and support within the home and also outside, the home supporting children and young people to access and be included in social and leisure activities in their local communities	Revenue	60 months	31/03/22	Renewal of Existing	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Health	SCC SS Play and Leisure Short Breaks_MULTIPLE PROVIDERS Linkable, YMCA East Surrey, Disability Challengers, White Lodge Centre	Short breaks enable children and young people to achieve better outcomes by having fun, seeing their friends and trying new activities, whilst also giving families a much needed break from caring. SCC has a range of statutory duties and responsibilities that it needs to fulfil in relation to short breaks provision.	Mixed	72 months	31/03/21	Renewal of Existing	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	Health	SCC SS Overnight Short Breaks_Cherry Trees	Short breaks enable children and young people to achieve better outcomes by having fun, seeing their friends and trying new activities, whilst also giving families a much needed break from caring. SCC has a range of statutory duties and responsibilities that it needs to fulfil in relation to short breaks provision.	Mixed	72 months	31/03/21	Renewal of Existing	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Children Families Lifelong Learning & Culture	SEND, Edu	Outreach Services (ASD, LAN and SEMH)	Re-articulation of Surrey SEND Outreach services for inclusion in mainstream schools.	Revenue	36 months		New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	01/09/21	No

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Environment Transport & Infrastructure										
Directorate	Service	Contract Name (and Reference Number and year (SRS/RS))	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/ Revenue/Grant funded/Shared	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (order as applicable)	To be reviewed by Cabinet to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Coroner's Office	Toxicology Screening on Behalf of HM Coroner	Provision of toxicological screening services by a specialist contractor for analysis of samples taken during post-mortem by HM Coroner's Office.	Revenue	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	18C	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Coroner's Office	Provision of a Transport Removal Service on Behalf of HM Coroner	Provision of a contract to deliver a Coroner's Removal service on behalf of HM Coroner for Surrey.	Revenue	18C	6/19/21	Renewal of Existing	Tender	01/07/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Waste	MRF Design Consultancy	Design team for the design and delivery of a MRF on landfill infrastructure	18C	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	18C	11/01/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Economic Development	102791/SCC Contract for the Provision of Deployed Services - Broadband	Contract for Broadband services across Surrey. Any procurement activity would be as a result of successfully bidding for grant funding.	Grant Funded	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	18C	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Procure Materials Recycling Facility	Procure Design, Build, Operate contract(s) for Surrey Materials Recycling Facility	Mixed	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	18C	Yes
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Countrywide Estate Furniture	Provision of multiple aspects of new and replacement furniture across the Countrywide Estate to be tendered for across multiple contracts and RFP processes but contracts may all be with the same provider	Capital	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Multiple RFP	10/10/20	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Re-procurement of Waste Contract	Re-procurement of the waste contract currently held by Surs, which expires on 28/09/2024	Revenue	18C	6/19/24	New Procurement Requirement	Competitive Dialogue	20/09/24	Yes
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Solar PV array	To install a 5MW solar PV array on a closed landfill site owned by SCC and to ultimately share the electricity to the grid to offset SCC's corporate energy consumption	Capital	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/22	Yes
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Realignable Canal Works	Designing lock gates, civil works	Capital	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	01/03/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Environment	Public Sector Retrofit programme	Government grant for decarbonisation measures (in heat pumps, insulation etc) to reduce energy and carbon from public sector buildings. We are developing a bid for our own buildings and our schools. Potentially a consortium bid with B&Ds	Capital	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	18C	Yes
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Smallfield FAS	Design and construct Flood Alleviation Scheme in Smallfield	Mixed	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	SCC Build Back Better Grant Scheme	Survey and installation of Property Flood Resilience measures to properties affected by flooding across Surrey.	Capital	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project over £1million	C26/754 Rushett Common Bridge - embankment stabilisation and vehicle containment.	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Reignitions and SUDS	Investigate, design and construct drainage features at various locations across Surrey	Capital	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Reign FAS	Design and construct Flood Alleviation Scheme in Reigns, including Highways drainage element	Mixed	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/09/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	A31/A331 Expansion joint replacement, 6 structures.	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Horrell Common Flood Alleviation	Works on Horrell Common to alleviate flooding in Woking, works to include building attenuation ponds and improvements to watercourses.	Capital	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	04/04/21 (18C)	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	A30/151 New Stream - Embankment, Wingwall stabilisation	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works projects, total value under £1million	Capital Drainage Improvements - Major Schemes (Downey Hill, A25 Wood Clendon, Langley VA Road, Bridge Road)	Capital	N/A	12/19/22	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/01/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	C134/452 Scotland Road Footbridge Replacement	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	B242/213 Elington Road Retaining Wall Replacement	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Letherhead & Fatchem SUDS and MRF Scheme	Design and construct sustainable drainage systems and Natural Flood Management measures to reduce risk of flooding in Letherhead & Fatchem	Capital	18C	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	04/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Aldfield FAS	Design and construct Flood Alleviation Scheme in Aldfield	Mixed	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	0239/2346 Waverly Wood Culvert Replacement	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Road Weather Information & Bureau Service	Surrey County Council operates a Road Weather Information System (RWIS) which comprises a network of roadside weather stations ("Outstations and Non - Invasive Outstations"), and a centralised weather data management service ("Bureau Service"). It also provides a 24/7 (year) "This specification outlines the requirements for the provision and operation of the Bureau."	Revenue	12D	30/06/21	Renewal of Existing	Accounting Framework Agreement	1/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Streetworks System (SWS)	Case management system being partly replaced by capital off system. Annual value of £75k.	Revenue	35	6/30/21	Renewal of Existing	Direct award	01/10/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Major Structures maintenance cleaning programme	Programme of de-linting, repair and improvement works around major structures which impact local flood risk	Capital	18C	31/1/23	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/01/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	02164/2278 Baxter Avenue Retaining Wall - Remedial and vehicle containment	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works project under £1million	02415/207 Mythen Place access slope replacement	Capital	N/A	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/04/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	One-off capital structure works projects, total value under £1million	Capital Drainage Improvements - minor scheme design and delivery	Capital	N/A	1/19/22	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/01/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Highway Works Management Systems	Highways and Transport have a need for works and information management systems to manage all highway activities. An IT strategy project team have been assessing the current systems used by teams across the service and identifying ongoing procurement strategy with a focus on integrated, reduction in number of systems and how to achieve value by balancing functionality and cost of a new system as possible. The largest part of this is the Works Management System (WMS) which is currently provided by four under the Team Maintenance Contract. Other systems being included in this procurement exercise - WMS/FMS, Technology Streetworks system, Bridgeworks, Safety Inspection app, Asset condition survey software, Project management etc.	Revenue	18C	Various	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	04/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Highways & Transport	Framework Agreement for the Provision of Advertising Services for Statutory Notices	Framework for Statutory Notices Advertising Services	Revenue	18C	1/7/22	New Procurement Requirement	Accounting Framework Agreement	01/03/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	SFR Occupational Health Services, including Physiotherapy and Psychological Services	Renewal of contracts for Occupational Health Services, Physiotherapy Services, and Psychological Services.	Revenue	18C	18C	Renewal of Existing	Tender	18C	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Fire Appliance Pump Servicing/Replacement	12 FIRE PUMP EACH YEAR - 24 IN TOTAL. Mixture of overhaul and replacement	Capital	24	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Provision of Liquid Fuel to Surrey Fire & Rescue Service Depots	The replacement for purchase and supply of bulk fuel (diesel / petrol) for vehicle use, e.g. Fire Appliances. Fuel will be delivered to each fire station site that has a bulk fuel storage tank.	Revenue	18C	1/19/22	Renewal of Existing	Accounting Framework Agreement	01/04/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Wildfire Fighting Capability	Off road fire fighting capabilities to be fitted to vehicles.	Capital	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/06/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Capital Vision 4 Support & Maintenance	Tender of Incident Management and Mobilising system as a replacement of the current Capital Vision 4 mobilising system. The replacement system will include mobilisation capability for fire and three Sussex FRS.	Revenue	18C	1/19/22	Renewal of Existing	Tender	01/04/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Community Fire Safety	The exact scope 18C	Capital	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	18C	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Provision of Fuel Cards to Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	The replacement of the contract to supply SFRs with Fuel Cards for liquid fuel (petrol / diesel).	Revenue	18C	1/19/22	Renewal of Existing	Accounting Framework Agreement	22/09/22	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Fire Station Mobilisation Equipment Upgrade	Fire station upgrade to mobilising equipment (software & hardware)	Capital	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	01/07/21	No
Environment Transport & Infrastructure	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	Mobilisation Centre Contingency Crewing	Provision of mobilisation centre crew by an external agency, to be called on in the event of industrial action or absence in SFR mobilisation establishments that would result in a failure to meet our statutory staffing requirements.	Capital	N/A	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	18C	No

Surrey Wide Committees in Common - Provided for information only. These projects are subject to SCC Sub-Committee approval

Directorate	Service	Contract Name (over Regulatory Threshold and over £1,000,000)	Contract Description (up to 250 characters)	Capital/ Revenue/Grant funded/Mixed	Contract Length in Months (including extension)	Current Contract End Date	Procurement Activity Required (Renewal of Existing/ Replacement with New Service/ New Procurement Requirement)	Route to Market	Start date of new contract(s) (enter as dd/mm/yy)	To be reserved by CiC to review commissioning and procurement strategy before going to market? (Yes / No)
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Community Connections	VCFS community based support for people with mental health needs- jointly commissioned with health	Revenue	TBC	31/03/22	Replacement with New Service	Tender	01/04/22	Yes
Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Advocacy Services (Including IMHA & IMCA and Childrens Advocacy)	Advocacy services help people – particularly those who are most vulnerable in society – to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access information and services • be involved in decisions about their lives • explore choices and options defend and promote their rights and responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speak out about issues that matter to them Advocates and advocacy schemes work in partnership with the people they support and take their side. Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice. The services included within this contract are IMCA, IMHA and Children's Advocacy	Revenue	TBC	31/03/22	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	01/04/22	Yes
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Collaborative Re-ablement Partnerships	Collaborative Re-ablement Partnership service with Home Based Care providers	Mixed	TBC	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	01/10/21	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care	Stroke Support Services	The Stroke Support Service (SSS) is designed to support stroke survivors, their families and carers in their recovery by providing tailored support after discharge back to their home or community and into the longer term.	Mixed	TBC	01/07/21	Replacement with New Service	Tender	01/07/22	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Public Health	Young Persons Substances Misuse	The key aim of the Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service is to reduce the harm that illicit drug and alcohol use causes to the individual.	Revenue	60	31/03/22	Renewal of Existing	Other	01/04/22	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Public Health	High Impact Complex Drinkers Assertive community programme	Assertive Community Programme	Revenue	36	31/03/22	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	Public Health	Community Recovery Programme	Substance Misuse	Revenue	36	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Public Health	Mental Health Equity Audits	Provide programme of MH equality audits to inform local work to improve mental health	Revenue	36	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	TBC	No
Health Wellbeing & Adult Social Care	Public Health	Family Weight Management	Provision of targeted family weight management programme	Revenue	TBC	31/03/22	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No
Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	Public Health	Integrated Livingwell	Provision of integrated health living programme that adopts a more holistic approach in supporting healthy lifestyle choices.	Revenue	TBC	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Tender	TBC	No
Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care	Public Health	PrEP - Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis	New funded duty to provide pre-exposure prophylaxis as part of sexual health provision to reduce the risk of persons getting HIV	Revenue	TBC	N/A	New Procurement Requirement	Light Touch Regime	TBC	No

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF: MR MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

LEAD OFFICER: LEIGH WHITEHOUSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (S151 OFFICER)

SUBJECT: 2020/21 MONTH 7 (OCTOBER) FINANCIAL REPORT

ORGANISATION STRATEGY: GROWING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT/ TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITY/ENABLING A
 PRIORITY AREA: GREENER FUTURE/EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This report provides details of the County Council's 2020/21 financial position as at 31st October 2020 (M7) for revenue and capital budgets and the projected outlook for the financial year.

Key Messages – Revenue

- **As at October 2020 (M7) the latest outlook remains in line with the prior month's report leaving a small increase of £0.1m to a £3.6m forecast variance to end the financial year. The details are shown in Annex 1 and summarised in Table 1.**
- Work continues to identify further efficiencies to close the deficit against the budget.

Key Messages – Capital

- The M7 capital update reflects **an increase in the forecast of £1.5m from M6**. The updated forecast for the year is £228.3m, details of which are set out in **Table 3**.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Note the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year
2. Approve the transfer of the full Park Special School surplus to the successor academy to support the continuing improvement needed at the school (Para 4)

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

DETAILS:**Revenue Budget**

1. As stated, the current forecast for the year is a deficit of £3.6m against the budget of £1,022.6m. Table 1 below shows the forecast revenue position by Directorate.

Table 1 - Summary revenue budget forecast variances as at 31st October 2020

Directorate	20/21 outturn forecast at M7 £m	Annual Budget £m	Forecast Variance £m	Change in forecast since last month £m
Adult Social Care	380.7	382.7	(2.0)	(0.1)
Public Health	32.9	32.9	0.0	0.2
Children, Families & Lifelong Learning	210.5	200.2	10.3	0.1
Environment, Transport & Infrastructure	136.9	134.2	2.7	0.6
Community Protection	37.7	36.8	0.9	0.1
Community & Transformation	15.2	15.4	(0.3)	0.2
Strategy & Commissioning	54.6	55.6	(1.1)	(0.1)
HR & Communications	8.3	8.4	(0.1)	(0.1)
Deputy CEX	2.3	2.3	(0.0)	(0.0)
Resources	73.3	73.6	(0.2)	(0.7)
Central Income & Expenditure	78.5	80.5	(2.0)	0.0
Directorate Budget Envelopes	1,030.9	1,022.6	8.3	0.1
Central Funding	(1,027.3)	(1,022.6)	(4.7)	(0.0)
Overall after central funding	3.5	0.0	3.6	0.1

Note: Numbers have been rounded which might cause a difference. The table reflects the revised organisational structure

2. The table above reflects small changes in the outlook from the prior month's report, consisting of:
- **ETI - £0.6m increase** due to an increase in the CV-19 forecast for Waste where assumptions on the length of time for increased tonnages and additional measures at CRCs have been extended.
 - **Resources - £0.7m decrease** due to:
 - IT&D (£0.3m); transition from an external provider to in-house provision for a key contract resulting in short term underspending.
 - Land & Property (£0.2m); decrease in projected staffing costs and additional capitalisation of maintenance costs.
 - CV-19 Allocation (£0.2m); relating to a decrease in anticipated loss of income (£0.3m) offset by the cost of additional space required at a special school in order to carry out required medical procedures in a CV-19 compliant way (£0.1m)
 - **Other minor changes totalling an increase of £0.2m**

CV-19 update

- There have been relatively small changes to the CV-19 forecast at M7, included in the £3.6m overall variance. CV-19 forecasts will be kept under review and a further reset may be necessary if the forecast changes significantly.

Park School Surplus

- The Park Special School converted to a sponsored academy on 1 April 2020 on the Secretary of State's instructions, following an OFSTED judgement of inadequate. The school had a surplus on conversion date of £35k revenue and £18k capital. These balances are in line with expected balances at 3% of the school's annual budget. These funds are required to address physical safeguarding issues and school structures to improve performance. As this was a forced conversion of an inadequate school, the Council can choose whether to transfer the surplus. It is proposed that the full surplus is transferred to the successor academy, which will support the continuing improvement needed at the school as outlined.

Capital Budget

- In February 2020, Council approved a capital budget of £175.7m. This was restated at M6 to £226.3m to reflect a reset based on M5 forecasts. As a result of additional £1.9m required for Corporate Capital Maintenance (£1.4m) and Schools Recurring Maintenance (£0.4m) and minor other changes, **the forecast now stands at £228.3m** shown in Table 3, below.

Table 3 - Capital Programme Forecast at M7

Strategic Capital Groups	Original Budget £m	Restated Budget £m	Forecast outturn at M7 £m	M7 Reported Variance £m	Change from M6 to M7 £m
Property					
Property Schemes	78.5	118.7	119.9	1.2	1.9
ASC Schemes	1.9	1.9	1.7	(0.2)	(0.0)
CFLC Schemes	1.7	0.6	0.5	(0.0)	0.0
Property Total	82.0	121.2	122.1	0.9	1.8
Infrastructure					
Highways and Transport	70.5	83.6	85.2	1.6	0.2
Environment	2.6	2.0	1.9	(0.0)	(0.0)
Community Protection	3.8	3.8	3.8	(0.0)	(0.0)
Infrastructure Total	76.8	89.3	90.9	1.6	0.2
IT					
IT Service Schemes	15.9	15.4	15.0	(0.4)	(0.4)
CFLC - EMS	0.9	0.3	0.2	(0.1)	(0.1)
IT Total	16.8	15.7	15.3	(0.5)	(0.5)
Total	175.7	226.3	228.3	2.0	1.5

CONSULTATION:

6. Executive Directors and Cabinet Members have confirmed the forecast outturns for their revenue and capital budgets.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

7. Risk implications are stated throughout the report and each relevant director or head of service has updated their strategic and or service risk registers accordingly. In addition, the Leadership Risk Register continues to reflect the increasing uncertainty of future funding likely to be allocated to the Council and the sustainability of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. In the light of the financial risks faced by the Council, the Leadership Risk Register will be reviewed to increase confidence in Directorate plans to mitigate the risks and issues.

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

8. The report considers financial and value for money implications throughout and future budget monitoring reports will continue this focus.

SECTION 151 OFFICER COMMENTARY

9. The Council has a duty to ensure its expenditure does not exceed resources available. Although significant progress has been made over the last twelve months to improve the Council's financial position, the medium-term financial outlook is uncertain. The public health crisis has resulted in increased costs which may not be fully funded in the current year. With uncertainty about the ongoing impact of this and no clarity on the extent to which both central and local funding sources might be affected from next year onward, our working assumption is that financial resources will continue to be constrained, as they have been for the majority of the past decade. This places an onus on the Council to continue to consider issues of financial sustainability as a priority in order to ensure stable provision of services in the medium term. Within this context the Council will continue to develop and implement plans to ensure the delivery of services are contained within resources.
10. The Section 151 Officer confirms the financial information presented in this report is consistent with the Council's general accounting ledger and that forecasts have been based on reasonable assumptions, taking into account all material, financial and business issues and risks.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – MONITORING OFFICER

11. The Council is under a duty to set a balanced and sustainable budget. The Local Government Finance Act requires the Council to take steps to ensure that the Council's expenditure (that is expenditure incurred already in year and anticipated to be incurred) does not exceed the resources available whilst continuing to meet its statutory duties.
12. Cabinet should be aware that if the Section 151 Officer, at any time, is not satisfied that appropriate strategies and controls are in place to manage expenditure within the in-year budget they must formally draw this to the attention of the Cabinet and Council and they must take immediate steps to ensure a balanced in-year budget, whilst complying with its statutory and common law duties.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

13. Any impacts of the budget monitoring actions will be evaluated by the individual services as they implement the management actions necessary. In implementing individual management actions, the Council must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 which requires it to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
14. Services will continue to monitor the impact of these actions and will take appropriate action to mitigate additional negative impacts that may emerge as part of this ongoing analysis.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

The relevant adjustments from the recommendations will be made to the Council's accounts.

Contact Officer:

Leigh Whitehouse, Executive Director of Resources, 020 8541 7246

Consulted:

Cabinet, Executive Directors, Heads of Service.

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Forecast revenue budget as at 31st October 2020.

Detailed Revenue Budget by Service – 31st October 2020

Service	Cabinet Member	Prior year to date actual £m	Year to date Budget £m	Year to date Actual £m	Year to date variance £m	Full Year Gross budget £m	Full year net budget £m	Full Year net forecast £m	Full year net forecast variance £m
Delegated Schools	J Iles	0.0	(0.3)	0.0	0.3	293.8	(0.0)	0.0	0.0
Education, Lifelong Learning & Culture	J Iles	37.7	39.2	16.9	(22.3)	213.3	50.2	57.2	7.0
Family Resilience	M Lewis	55.5	52.8	50.6	(2.2)	103.8	89.9	91.7	1.8
Corporate Parenting	M Lewis	24.2	24.9	24.7	(0.2)	44.7	40.4	42.1	1.7
Quality & Performance	M Lewis / J Iles	4.9	5.2	5.0	(0.2)	10.9	8.9	8.6	(0.3)
Directorate wide savings	M Lewis / J Iles	0.0	1.2	3.6	2.5	4.9	10.8	11.0	0.2
Children, Families, Learning		122.3	123.0	100.9	(22.1)	671.4	200.2	210.6	10.4
Public Health	S Mooney	17.4	17.4	13.8	(3.6)	32.8	32.9	32.9	0.0
Adult Social Care	S Mooney	218.4	230.3	233.9	3.6	533.3	382.7	380.7	(2.0)
Highways & Transport	M Furniss	29.3	31.4	30.5	(0.9)	69.2	58.5	58.3	(0.2)
Environment	N Bramhall	31.4	41.4	43.9	2.5	75.4	71.7	74.5	2.8
Leadership Team (ETI)	M Furniss / N Bramhall	0.5	(0.0)	0.2	0.2	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.5)	(0.4)
ETI CV-19	M Furniss / N Bramhall	0.0	2.5	1.2	(1.3)	4.2	4.2	4.6	0.4
Environment, Transport & Infrastructure		61.2	75.2	75.8	0.6	148.8	134.2	136.9	2.7
Fire and Rescue	D Turner-Stewart	18.6	18.5	18.0	(0.5)	36.4	31.7	31.7	(0.0)
Trading Standards	D Turner-Stewart	1.0	1.1	1.1	(0.0)	4.0	1.9	1.9	0.0
Chief of Staff	D Turner-Stewart	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Emergency Management	D Turner-Stewart	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	(0.0)
Coroner	D Turner-Stewart	1.3	1.1	1.7	0.7	2.5	2.1	2.9	0.8
Health & Safety	D Turner-Stewart	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
CP CV-19	D Turner-Stewart	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.1
Armed Forces and Resilience	D Turner-Stewart	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Community Protection		21.3	21.2	21.7	0.5	43.8	36.8	37.7	0.9
Human Resources & Organisational Development	Z Grant-Duff	1.7	3.8	3.4	(0.5)	6.6	6.6	6.5	(0.1)
Communications	Z Grant-Duff	0.7	0.8	0.8	(0.0)	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0
HR & Comm CV-19	Z Grant-Duff	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0
HR & Communications		2.4	4.8	4.4	(0.4)	8.4	8.4	8.3	(0.1)
Transformation Support Unit	T Oliver	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	(0.0)
Customer Services	Z Grant-Duff	1.7	1.7	1.6	(0.1)	3.1	2.9	2.8	(0.1)
Community Partnerships	Z Grant-Duff	0.0	0.4	0.3	(0.1)	1.3	1.3	1.3	(0.0)
Libraries, Registrars & Culture	J Iles	3.7	6.9	5.4	(1.4)	16.4	10.1	9.9	(0.3)
C&T CV-19	T Oliver / J Iles	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1
Community & Transformation		5.4	9.6	8.0	(1.6)	21.9	15.4	15.2	(0.3)
Strategic Commissioning	M Lewis / J Iles	5.5	29.9	28.2	(1.6)	130.6	52.0	51.1	(0.9)
Insight, Analytics & Intelligence	Z Grant-Duff	2.2	1.7	1.7	(0.0)	2.8	2.0	1.9	(0.1)
S&C CV-19	J Iles / Z Grant-Duff	0.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	0.7	1.6	1.6	0.0
Strategy & Commissioning		7.9	32.3	31.5	(0.8)	134.1	55.6	54.6	(1.1)
Strategic Leadership	T Oliver	0.6	2.0	2.0	(0.1)	2.8	1.5	1.5	0.0
Economic Growth	C Kemp	0.3	0.5	0.4	(0.0)	0.8	0.8	0.8	(0.0)
DCEX CV-19	C Kemp	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deputy CEX		0.9	2.5	2.4	(0.1)	3.6	2.3	2.3	0.0
Joint Operating Budget ORBIS	M Few	18.5	10.0	11.3	1.3	17.2	17.6	17.6	(0.0)
Land & Property	M Few	10.4	14.7	16.2	1.5	36.3	27.1	27.0	(0.1)
Information Technology & Digital	M Few	4.3	6.3	6.0	(0.2)	11.4	10.7	10.4	(0.4)
Finance	M Few	0.9	3.2	3.4	0.2	7.6	5.5	5.7	0.1
Legal Services	M Few	2.4	2.4	2.8	0.4	4.6	4.1	4.5	0.4
Democratic Services	M Few	1.8	1.9	1.9	(0.0)	3.5	3.2	3.2	(0.0)
Business Operations	M Few	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.0	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.2)	0.1
Resources Leadership	M Few	0.0	3.7	0.9	(2.8)	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.0
Twelve15	M Few	0.0	2.9	2.5	(0.4)	18.4	1.9	1.8	(0.1)
Resources CV-19	M Few / Z Grant-Duff	0.0	0.7	0.5	(0.3)	7.3	2.9	2.7	(0.2)
Resources		38.2	45.7	45.4	(0.3)	106.9	73.6	73.3	(0.2)
Corporate Expenditure	M Few	17.2	38.9	32.6	(6.3)	94.4	80.5	78.5	(2.0)
Business as Usual		512.4	600.8	570.3	(30.5)	1,799.4	1,022.6	1,030.8	8.3
Efficiencies unachievable due to CV-19							0.0	0.0	0.0
Amount already assumed in Directorate figures above							0.0	0.0	0.0
Total services' revenue expenditure		512.4	600.8	570.3	(30.5)	1,799.4	1,022.6	1,030.8	8.3
Central funding		(353.0)	(632.9)	(632.9)	0.0	0.0	(1,022.6)	(1,027.3)	(4.7)
Total Net revenue expenditure		159.4	(32.1)	(62.6)	(30.5)	1,799.4	0.0	3.5	3.6

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