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Agenda and Reports
for the meeting of
THE COUNTY COUNCIL - INFORMAL
to be held on
18 JANUARY 2022

(ii)

Remote via Microsoft Teams

Friday, 7 January 2022

TO THE MEMBERS OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

The Informal meeting of the Council is to be held remotely, on Tuesday, 18 January 2022, beginning at 10.00 am, for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the Agenda set out overleaf.

JOANNA KILLIAN
Chief Executive

Note 1: *This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes within the Council.*

Please note that this is an Informal meeting and members of the public can access the meeting via the link in the box below.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the representative of Legal and Democratic Services at the meeting.

Please note that due to the Covid-19 situation this meeting will take place informally and will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

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

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=121&Year=0>

If you have any queries relating to accessing this agenda or the meeting please email amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk.

1 LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader to make a statement.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions and/or make comments.

2 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

1. The Leader of the Council or the appropriate Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee to answer any questions on any matter relating to the powers and duties of the County Council, or which affects the county.

(Note: Notice of questions in respect of the above item on the agenda must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on 12 January 2022).

2. Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios.

These will be circulated by email to all Members prior to the County Council meeting, together with the Members' questions and responses.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions.

3 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Any Member may make a statement at the meeting on a local issue of current or future concern.

(Note: Notice of statements must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 17 January 2022).

4 ORIGINAL MOTIONS

Item 4 (i)

Lance Spencer (Goldsworth East and Horsell Village) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

That communities are increasingly recognising the benefits of slower traffic in residential and busy pedestrian streets and outside schools. These include improved road safety; calmer, steadier traffic flows leading to increased confidence amongst residents in being able to walk and cycle more safely; the resulting reduction in traffic volumes that improves air quality. Ultimately 20 miles per hour (mph) zones lead to better physical and mental health outcomes for residents who live and travel in those areas.

That speeds of 20 mph are less likely to lead to death or serious injury and have support from disability groups.

(iv)

That schemes for signed 20 mph zones are more affordable, quicker and easier to implement at pace and a growing number of authorities are implementing them across the country.

This Council further notes:

That Surrey County Council supports the implementation of 20 mph limits, but the current piecemeal approach and inadequate level of funding will not deliver on the step change required to affect residents' travel choices to the extent needed to meet the ambition of the draft Local Transport Plan and Greener Futures' delivery plan.

That as the highway authority Surrey County Council has the legal power to set speed limits in Surrey, however its current policy is unfit for purpose.

That 20 mph zones marked solely by signs accompanied by minimal enforcement have already been piloted elsewhere. This Council can decide to join the growing number of local authorities and regions who are already trialling this model or risk becoming an outlier in this space.

That over time, implementation of such schemes will likely lead to future cohorts of drivers coming to regard 20 mph as the new 30 mph.

This Council resolves to:

Request the Leader and Cabinet to:

- I. Agree in principle the implementation of signage only 20 mph zones in residential roads, outside schools and on high streets that currently have a 30 mph limit and where there is member and community support for the change.
- II. Agree to an amendment of the current speed policy to allow for implementation of schemes in appropriate areas even where mean speeds exceed 24 mph.
- III. Agree to establish a dedicated funding pot to provide adequate resources for the scheme to be implemented equitably across the county.

Item 4 (ii)

Catherine Baart (Earlswood and Reigate South) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

- The Local Government Association forecasts 700,000 new jobs in the Green economy by 2030, and that the Green economy will grow at a higher rate than the economy as a whole.
- Delivering the Council's Climate Change Strategy and Delivery Plan will need more people employed in 'Green Jobs' in Surrey.

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- The UK has a green skills shortage, highlighted for example by the shortfall in trades needed for energy efficient retrofit of UK buildings.
- There is an opportunity to Build Back Better after the pandemic, through workers reskilling to move into green jobs, and apprenticeships in low carbon industries, particularly in:
 - areas with higher unemployment;
 - for younger people; and
 - for people living near Heathrow and Gatwick airports who have been impacted by the reduction in flights.

This Council agrees that:

- Taking the lead on developing new training and skills opportunities would support Surrey County Council's Greener Futures ambitions and a more resilient, sustainable Surrey economy.
- Taking this lead should involve working with Surrey's further education colleges and universities, as well as with appropriate businesses
- Training and skills development should be inclusive, fully accessible regardless of income, or background, as well as for those with disabilities.

This Council resolves to:

Request the Leader and Cabinet to:

- I. Produce a place-based, costed Green Skills & Jobs Plan to support Surrey's Climate Change Delivery Plan, initially targeting areas with higher youth unemployment.

Item 4 (iii)

Catherine Powell (Farnham North) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

Surrey Highways devotes a great deal of time and resource working with utilities companies to identify unmarked assets requiring repair.

The two-year grace period granted to utility companies to leave in place temporary repairs before making permanent repairs can often have an adverse and unreasonable impact on residents and businesses.

Therefore, this Council calls upon the Leader and Cabinet to resolve to:

- I. Lobby the Government to introduce a statutory requirement for local authorities and private utility companies to work in partnership and to use technology such as RFID (radio-frequency identification) in order to record the location, service history and

other data of an asset, and to record and share asset data going forward.

- II. Lobby the Government to reduce the two-year period for permanent repairs to less than a year, and for utility companies to maintain a register of all such temporary repairs to be shared regularly with the relevant highway authority.

Item 4 (iv)

Bernie Muir (Epsom West) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

- Mental health issues are experienced by old and young alike across all walks of life, and many either do not seek help, struggle to get help or do not necessarily get the help they need.

This Council further notes that:

- Greater numbers of Surrey residents, of all ages, are experiencing pronounced mental health problems, which have been exacerbated by Covid-19, national and tiered lockdowns, social distancing and the effects of trauma, bereavement, and economic insecurity.
- The negative impact this has on society, the economy, employment and education of the people of Surrey, that it increases health inequality, with those experiencing mental health problems experiencing physical health problems, likely to smoke, be overweight, use drugs and drink alcohol to excess, fall into poverty, and are overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- This Council re-affirms the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board's declaration that, "By 2030, we want Surrey to 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."
- This Council welcomes the actions of the Adults & Health Select Committee in establishing a Mental Health Journey Task Group, which consulted widely amongst people of Surrey with lived experience of mental health problems. This ultimately led to a Surrey Integrated Mental Health Partnership Board and the Council endorses their key aims of their Surrey Mental Health Plan, including:
 - Improving and expanding crisis services, including increasing bed capacity and support;
 - Expanding our GP Integrated Mental Health Services – which provides specialist mental health access and support in primary care settings;

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- Transforming our community mental health teams;
- Better, post diagnosis dementia support;
- Expanded perinatal mental health services;
- Reducing the number of out of Surrey placements;
- Taking advantage of digital innovation to improve services;
- Improved support for our BAME communities;
- Implementing our Mental Health Partnership Board improvement plans for children and young people;
- An additional £6m investment in a new Emotional Wellbeing Mental Health contract for children and young people with a focus on early intervention, work in schools and reduced service backlogs;
- The provision of high acuity eating disorder beds within Surrey;
- Focused action on suicide prevention and reduction of self-harm.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- I. Call for urgency in delivering the recommendations of the Mental Health Journey Task Group.
- II. Encourage all partners in the Integrated Mental Health Partnership Board to give assurances that they will fully fund and resource the plan to ensure that the full plan, the recommendations and all parts of the co-production are delivered to ensure the optimum outcome.
- III. Call for the employer organisations and employers, Surrey-wide, to get engaged in order to provide opportunities for people with mental health problems and to establish mental health friendly environments.

Item 4 (v)

Rebecca Paul (Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

- Looking after and protecting children and young people is not just up to the lead member or director of children's services – we need everyone looking out for our most vulnerable children and young people, and every councillor has a role to play in embedding corporate parenting principles and doing all they can to support children in care to live meaningful and fulfilling lives.

This Council further notes that:

- The Children and Social Work Act 2017 set out corporate parenting principles for the council as a whole to be the best parent it can be to children in its care. The Act introduced seven principles of corporate parenting for looked after children or care leavers. These include acting in their best interests and promoting their health and wellbeing; helping looked after children and care leavers to gain access to and get the best use of the services provided by the local

authority and its partners; promoting high aspirations and preparing them for adulthood and independent living.

- Despite a motion previously agreed by this council, there are still two district and borough councils in the county yet to exempt care leavers from council tax. This is an unfair situation for some of the most disadvantaged groups of young people living in Surrey.

- One of the ways that health and wellbeing can be promoted is by offering looked after children, their carers and care leavers free access to leisure centres across the county. The need for a fair and consistent offer across the county of Surrey is important, as children are placed with foster carers or in our own children's residential homes in every district and borough. Six of the district and borough councils make no leisure offer for looked after children and care leavers. Moreover, the leisure offers available in the five other district and boroughs differ greatly in eligibility and choice causing an unwelcome postcode lottery.

- All Members share the duties and responsibilities of being a corporate parent. There is much that we can do to support our looked after children to live fulfilling lives – in the same way that we would do for our own children, grandchildren or those close to us.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- I. Work with the outstanding district and borough partners to secure exemption from council tax for all of our care leavers.

- II. Work with all of our district and borough council partners to secure free access for all of Surrey's looked after children and care leavers at all of the leisure and sports facilities that they own or manage.

- III. To ask all Members individually to do all they can to support children in care to live meaningful and fulfilling lives by seeking out and securing opportunities for employment, work experience, sport and leisure activities and cultural and educational opportunities. In addition, by making and securing contributions to our own Surrey County Council Looked After Children's Celebration Fund.

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