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## **Agenda and Reports**

for the meeting of

**THE COUNTY COUNCIL**

to be held on

**12 OCTOBER 2021**



Woodhatch Place  
Reigate  
Surrey

Monday, 4 October 2021

TO THE MEMBERS OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

### **SUMMONS TO MEETING**

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Council to be held at Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8EF, on Tuesday, 12 October 2021, 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:** For those Members wishing to participate, Prayers will be said at 9.50am. Canon Peter Bruinvels CC, Service Chaplain - Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, has kindly consented to officiate. If any Members wish to take time for reflection, meditation, alternative worship or other such practice prior to the start of the meeting, alternative space can be arranged on request by contacting Democratic Services.*

*There will be a very short interval between the conclusion of Prayers and the start of the meeting to enable those Members and Officers who do not wish to take part in Prayers to enter the Council Chamber and join the meeting.*

***Note 2:** 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.*

*Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.*

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

**If you would like a copy of this agenda or the attached papers in another format, e.g. large print or braille, or another language please either call Democratic Services on 020 8541 9122, or write to Democratic Services, Surrey County Council at Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8EF, Minicom 020 8541 9698, fax 020 8541 9009, or email [amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk)**

**This meeting will be held in public, however numbers will be limited in order to adhere to Covid-19 social distancing requirements. If you would like to attend, please contact Amelia Christopher on 07929 725663 or via the email address above in advance of the meeting.**

**MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AND FILMING – ACCEPTABLE USE**

Those attending for the purpose of reporting on the meeting may use social media or mobile devices in silent mode to send electronic messages about the progress of the public parts of the meeting. To support this, Woodhatch Place has wifi available for visitors – please ask at reception for details.

Anyone is permitted to film, record or take photographs at council meetings. Please liaise with the council officer listed in the agenda prior to the start of the meeting so that those attending the meeting can be made aware of any filming taking place.

Use of mobile devices, including for the purpose of recording or filming a meeting, is subject to no interruptions, distractions or interference being caused to the PA or Induction Loop systems, or any general disturbance to proceedings. The Chair may ask for mobile devices to be switched off in these circumstances.

It is requested that if you are not using your mobile device for any of the activities outlined above, it be switched off or placed in silent mode during the meeting to prevent interruptions and interference with PA and Induction Loop systems.

*Thank you for your co-operation*

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman to report apologies for absence.

## 2 MINUTES

(Pages  
15 - 58)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 July 2021.

## 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 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome

Welcome to today's first Council meeting in the Council Chamber! I am sure you will agree it is a fantastic space and we are extremely lucky to have access to this state-of-the-art equipment, that will no doubt help in facilitating today's meeting.

Thank you to the Democratic Services Officers for having us set up and ready to go! As always, we are all extremely grateful to you for ensuring the smooth running of Council.

### Farewell to Tom Sharpe & Heather Hawker

A moment of sadness now as we have recently said farewell to former Councillor Tom Sharpe and Heather Hawker MBE DL.

Tom was a generous, compassionate and intelligent man who cared deeply for the people of Surrey serving them tirelessly, first as a Surrey County Councillor from 1989 to 2005 and then also as a Guildford Borough Councillor from 1991 to 1999.

Heather was a committed and energetic County Councillor who was first elected to the county council in 1985, she became Chairman of the Libraries, Leisure and Countryside Committee in 1993 and finally she served as Chairman of the Council for three years before standing down in 2001.

Please let us all take a moment to remember Tom and Heather.

### **Awards**

I am over the moon to relay that Surrey County Council obtained for three projects, one Silver and two Bronze awards at the IESE Award Ceremony last month. This is a tremendous achievement and many congratulations to all Surrey staff involved. You have certainly done Surrey proud.

### **Young Mayor of Surrey**

The Young Mayor, Natalie Winfield is studying hard at Boarding School but we are thrilled to have Tallulah flying the flag as Deputy, and we look forward to hearing about the work they are doing with Surrey's young people in due course.

### **Chair's work in the County**

I have been exceedingly busy in my role as Chair across the county since the last council meeting and as some of you may have seen, I have been using my Facebook page to promote some of the engagements, meetings and visits I have made.

Here are just a few highlights:

- **Wood Street Jaz Festival** – All of the money raised went directly to Challengers, helping to break down the barriers to play, for local disabled children and their families.
- **Rededication of the SFRC** – Memorial Dedication to the 100 Surrey firefighters who lost their lives in World Wars I and II.
- **Surrey Hill's** – Sharing experiences of how we can all help to promote better access for more people of all abilities to access and enjoy our beautiful countryside in a sustainable way for their health and well-being whilst reducing conflict.
- **Dorking Museum and Heritage Centre** – awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and a special commendation from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport for outstanding service to our community during the early Covid lockdowns. The award was presented to the Museum by Sir Michael More-Molyneux, Lord Lieutenant of Surrey.
- **Surrey Civic Network Event** – I welcomed the newly elected Mayor's and Chairs of Surrey's District and Boroughs to Woodhatch to meet and discuss their themes and charities for the year.
- **The Bula Festival** – A day to and raise awareness of the cultural diversity within the Armed Force and celebrate Surrey's diversity by bringing together Service communities, veterans, their families and local communities through cultural exposition whilst celebrating Fijians contribution to the UK Armed Forces.
- **Bloomin' Arts** – A visit with HRH The Duke Of Gloucester to support people with learning difficulties to enjoy, develop skills, perform and work in the arts.

The next few months look like they will be equally busy but I would encourage members to get in touch with any concerns or proposals for visits to their divisions.

## 5 LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader to make a statement.

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

## 6 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 6 October 2021).***

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.

## 7 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 11 October 2021).***

## 8 ORIGINAL MOTIONS

Item 8 (i)

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

**This Council notes that:**

- Surrey County Council would like to thank all public transport staff, including the frontline staff, who have all worked extremely hard on a daily basis over the last eighteen months to maintain the vital rail network across Surrey during the pandemic, and in the face of such adversity.
- It is crucial to review our public transport networks – both bus and rail – to ensure as far as we practicably can that these networks continue to support our economy and growth ambitions, meet the needs of our communities, and ensure we reach net zero in Surrey.

**This Council further notes that:**

- Any reduction in services across the network is contrary to national, regional and local strategies. Specifically, the County Council's emerging Surrey Transport Plan, the Rail Strategy approved earlier this year and the Climate Change Strategy; all of which promote public transport ahead of car use, whilst providing a framework to promote the wider decarbonisation of transport.
- This Government's Bus back better Strategy, which in tandem with Surrey County Council's Active Travel, will transform the way in services are planned and delivered and the way in which residents use public transport.

**This Council resolves to:**

- I. Continue to engage a constructive dialogue with railway service providers and other partners in the rail industry to help inform and shape the detail of future timetables, and to include a restoration of service frequencies through our stations across Surrey.
- II. Support the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure in writing a letter to the Secretary of State outlining this Council's concerns regarding the impact that new timetable proposals may have on Surrey residents and to ensure adequate funding is provided to support sustainable transport provision in Surrey.

**Item 8 (ii)**

**Marisa Heath (Englefield Green) to move under standing order 11 as follows:**

**This Council notes that:**

- Surrey County Council is committed to becoming a net zero council by 2030.
- The Council has further committed to Surrey becoming a net zero county by 2050 at the latest to mitigate the impact of climate change on our residents, infrastructure, landscapes and biodiversity, and to play our part in preserving the vitality of our planet for future generations.
- Surrey County Council has a crucial role to play in delivering and driving this agenda by ensuring that resources and levers that are within its control and areas of influence are utilised to the maximum.
- The ambitions of the Greener Futures Climate Change Strategy require a step change in how our communities live, work and play.

**This Council further notes that the Council's role in delivering the county's net zero target requires us to:**

- **Lead** by example with the ambition to reduce the carbon emissions of the Council's own operations and services, recognising that elected members and officers have a significant role in leading by example in their actions and lifestyles and inspiring our colleagues, residents and communities to move to more sustainable ways of living and working in all of their decision making.
- **Enable** and identify opportunities and projects that reduce carbon emissions across Surrey that can benefit from the Council, by the Council facilitating finance and resources to attract external investment.
- **Inspire** by maximising opportunities to influence behaviour change and empower people and organisations to take actions that lead to real and sustainable change.

Additionally, it will be crucial for the Council to take a fourth role, by **collaborating** with districts and boroughs, health and other key partners to ensure every effort is maximised and joined up wherever possible.

**In light of the above, this Council resolves to:**

- I. Endorse a Greener Futures Member Commitment and in doing so, agree to put greener futures at the forefront of all aspects of decision-making, in line with our refreshed organisational strategy.
- II. Commit to working cross-party to champion the Greener Futures agenda and Climate Change delivery plan. Where Surrey County Council members also hold seats at District and Borough councils, they will support ongoing collaboration to deliver shared objectives and targets, and will, wherever possible, support local decisions and policies that deliver decarbonisation for Surrey.
- III. Commit to act as a connector with residents, staying abreast of opportunities for residents and communities to reduce their personal carbon footprints and improve their local environments. This includes promoting schemes, initiatives and funding opportunities which will be highlighted through communications undertaken around the Greener Futures.
- IV. Commit to actively encouraging communities to take a leading role in shaping and delivering the way in which we decarbonise the county and supporting community led decarbonisation and environmental initiatives, signposting appropriate funding sources such as Your Fund Surrey.
- V. Commit to working with partners through the Greener Futures Board to provide countywide leadership to this agenda.
- VI. Work with County Council officers to identify and support those on lower incomes and vulnerable residents to reduce their carbon

footprint and energy bills, ensuring that our policies do not have unintended consequences on these groups and that no one is left behind.

- VII. Agree that the Greener Futures Member Commitment will be included as a project within the One Net Zero Public Estate Programme of the new Greener Futures Climate Change Delivery Plan, which will be taken to Cabinet for a decision in October. The carbon impact of the commitment will be monitored and included as part of the Council's carbon reduction contribution.
- VIII. Agree that the Communities, Environment & Highways Select Committee Climate Change Task Force consider other actions in the future which can be added to the Greener Futures Member Commitment.
- IX. Appoint a Greener Futures Champion to support members in their efforts and highlight relevant points to all elected members that can help them deliver on their commitment to tackling climate change.

**Item 8 (iii)**

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

**This Council notes that:**

At present it is very expensive for suppliers to provide locally generated renewable electricity to local customers.

The Local Electricity Bill would help reduce the cost of renewable electricity from community projects. It would make the supplier's financial costs proportionate to the size of the operation and in doing so would help community energy groups get their schemes going. In turn, this would generate local revenues for the local economy, as well as reducing carbon emissions.

"Accelerating community energy projects" is part of the Council's Climate Change Delivery Plan and the Local Electricity Bill made law would support the Council in achieving its Greener Futures goals. In Outwood (an East Surrey village with no gas supply largely dependent on oil for heating), a local community electricity project could make decarbonising heating possible for the residents.

The Local Electricity Bill would establish a "Right to Local Supply" policy.

At present, 79 councils and a cross party group of at least 264 MPs support the Local Electricity Bill, including Jeremy Hunt, MP.

**This Council resolves to:**

- I. Support the Local Electricity Bill.
- II. Write to local MPs who have not yet expressed support for the Bill.
- III. Write to the organisers of the Bill, Power for the People, expressing its support.

**Item 8 (iv)**

**Robert Evans (Stanwell and Stanwell Moor) to move under standing order 11 as follows:**

**This Council notes:**

With great concern the on-going national and local issue regarding incidences of faulty cladding on buildings and other related defects, which have come to light since the tragic Grenfell Tower fire of 2017, which claimed seventy-two lives.

That in November 2018, the government banned the use of all combustible materials on the walls of new high rises meaning the problem has now extended beyond aluminium composite material (ACM) cladding to include fire breaks between floors and other building features, including wooden balconies and panels. However, it did not legislate for building owners to take action nor provide sufficient compensation funds to cover all situations.

**This Council further notes:**

That the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the UK Council of Mortgage Lenders agreed the industry External Wall System (EWS) fire review and certification process resulting in what is known as an EWS1 form, without which many lenders are now refusing to provide mortgages, leaving many Surrey leaseholders in severe financial crisis and with homes that are dangerous and often unsaleable.

Council therefore welcomes the appointment of Surrey Heath MP, Rt Hon Michael Gove as secretary of state for Levelling up, housing and communities, charged with steering the Building Safety Bill through Parliament and urges him to recognise and address the unfairness of developers or management companies placing the cost of repair works on the shoulders of the leaseholders.

Additionally, Council is deeply concerned that this is all having a detrimental impact on the mental and physical health of many residents in Surrey, who have put considerable, personal and financial investment into becoming part of the home owning democracy, only to find that the large development companies are demanding huge repair costs and/or the cost of waking fire watches.

Furthermore, Council believes Surrey councils have a responsibility and arguably a 'duty of care' to its residents and therefore should not stand by and leave action to the government alone and now needs to step in and take unilateral action where legally allowed to.

**This Council therefore calls on its leadership to support all those in Surrey affected by this scandal and to resolve to:**

- I. Formally raise the issue with H M government through Mr Gove and the County's other MPs.

- II. Support other local authorities and the LGA's initiatives with the government in exploring ways in which local councils can be empowered to support their residents and ensure building regulations are complied with, or retrospectively repaired, at no cost to the leaseholder.
- III. Ask the boroughs and districts, in conjunction with Surrey Fire and Rescue Service as a matter of urgency and if they have not already done so, to perform an audit and consultation to establish the potential scope of the cladding, EWS1 and snagging issues of all habitable buildings.
- IV. Urge the County's boroughs and districts to explore ways to delay approving planning applications where the applicant has outstanding snagging or EWS1 certification issues and include a condition to be discharged on all future planning applications to provide an EWS1 form before first occupation.
- V. Sign Surrey County Council up to the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign.

#### **Item 8 (v)**

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

#### **The Council notes that:**

The important Climate Summit COP26 is being held in Glasgow this November, and that it is now over two years since the Climate Emergency was recognised and declared by this Council on 9 July 2019.

The local response to the Climate Emergency, as laid out in the Greener Futures Delivery Plan, while capable of undertaking many urgent and useful actions within its powers and capacity and able to energise local people and businesses, faces critical limitations in key areas for scaling-up change, including:

- Sufficient funding for the front-loaded costs of insulation schemes, replacement of carbon-intensive heating systems and installation of renewables in Surrey buildings - by residents, businesses and the public sector.
- Sufficient funding to bring forward the necessary changes to motorised transport as laid out in the Local Transport Plan 4 currently out for consultation to significantly reduce the 46% of Surrey-based greenhouse gas emissions which are from this activity.
- Sufficient funding and a clear strategy for the effective communications and engagement necessary to create the behavioural change that will be required in the coming years to deliver the Greener Futures Delivery Plan.

**In light of the climate emergency declaration, this Council resolves to:**

- I. Request the Cabinet Member for Environment to write to the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, the new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, and Alok Sharma, President of COP26 to urge sufficient funding and policy change to allow local government to make urgent progress in meeting its challenges meaningfully in the financial year 2022/23.
- II. Request the Cabinet Member for Environment to review and update the existing communications and engagement plan, before the next meeting of the Council, to set out how we will engage with the 1.2 million residents, eighty-one Members and businesses across Surrey so they fully understand the transformation needed for Surrey to meet its carbon reduction targets.

## **9 CHANGES TO CABINET PORTFOLIOS**

### **Recommendation:**

Council is asked to note the Leader's changes to Cabinet Portfolios.

*Report to follow*

- |           |  |                    |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEMBER MEETINGS</b>  | (Pages<br>59 - 62) |
|           | County Council is asked to review and approve the proposed arrangements for member meetings for the remainder of the Council Year 2021/22, following the relaxation of the public health restrictions and the expiry of the Remote Meeting Regulations 2020. |                    |
| <b>11</b> | <b>REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>  | (Pages<br>63 - 78) |
|           | Council is asked to agree to the enclosed Risk Management Strategy and for the Constitution to be updated.   |                    |
| <b>12</b> | <b>APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</b>   | (Pages<br>79 - 82) |
|           | For Council to agree in principle the appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee, for recruitment and final approval by Council at its meeting on 14 December 2021.  |                    |
| <b>13</b> | <b>REPORT OF THE CABINET</b>   | (Pages<br>83 - 88) |
|           | To receive the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 20 July 2021 and 28 September 2021.   |                    |

**14 MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS**

(Pages  
89 - 114)

Any matters within the minutes of the Cabinet's meetings, and not otherwise brought to the Council's attention in the Cabinet's report, may be the subject of questions and statements by Members upon notice being given to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 11 October 2021.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT  
WOODHATCH PLACE, 11 COCKSHOT HILL, REIGATE, SURREY, RH2 8EF,  
ON 13 JULY 2021 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM, THE COUNCIL BEING  
CONSTITUTED AS FOLLOWS:**

Helyn Clack (Chair)  
Saj Hussain (Vice-Chair)

Maureen Attewell	Eber Kington
Ayesha Azad	Rachael Lake
Catherine Baart	Victor Lewanski
Steve Bax	David Lewis (Cobham)
John Beckett	* David Lewis (Camberley West)
Jordan Beech	Scott Lewis
Luke Bennett	Andy Lynch
Amanda Boote	Andy MacLeod
Liz Bowes	Ernest Mallett MBE
Natalie Bramhall	Michaela Martin
Stephen Cooksey	Jan Mason
Colin Cross	Steven McCormick
Clare Curran	* Cameron McIntosh
Nick Darby	* Julia McShane
Fiona Davidson	* Sinead Mooney
* Paul Deach	Carla Morson
Kevin Deanus	Bernie Muir
Jonathan Essex	Mark Nuti
Robert Evans	* John O'Reilly
Chris Farr	Tim Oliver
Paul Follows	Rebecca Paul
Will Forster	George Potter
* John Furey	Catherine Powell
Matt Furniss	* Penny Rivers
Angela Goodwin	John Robini
* Jeffrey Gray	Becky Rush
* Alison Griffiths	Tony Samuels
Tim Hall	* Joanne Sexton
David Harmer	Lance Spencer
* Nick Harrison	Lesley Steeds
Edward Hawkins	Mark Sugden
Marisa Heath	Richard Tear
Trefor Hogg	Chris Townsend
Robert Hughes	Liz Townsend
Jonathan Hulley	Denise Turner-Stewart
* Rebecca Jennings-Evans	Hazel Watson
Frank Kelly	Jeremy Webster
Riasat Khan	Buddhi Weerasinghe
Robert King	Fiona White
	Keith Witham

\*absent

#### **43/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Deach, John Furey, Jeffrey Gray, Alison Griffiths, Nick Harrison, Rebecca Jennings-Evans, David Lewis (Camberley West), Cameron McIntosh, Julia McShane, Sinead Mooney, John O'Reilly, Penny Rivers and Joanne Sexton.

#### **44/21 MINUTES [Item 2]**

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 25 May 2021 were submitted and confirmed.

#### **45/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

Robert Hughes declared an interest as he was the Chief Executive for the charity, Sight for Surrey, which operated two contracts for Surrey County Council for adult social care and one contract for education; and stated that he would not participate in items concerning the above.

John Robini declared an interest regarding item 8: Original Motions, 8 (i) concerning street lighting as he worked for Surrey Police as a Crime Prevention Design Advisor and helped Surrey to plan its present policy.

#### **46/21 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]**

The Chair:

- Referred to her announcements as published in the supplementary agenda and led a minute's silence to remember Donald Thwaites and Dorothy Mitchell.

#### **47/21 LEADER'S STATEMENT [Item 5]**

The Leader made a detailed statement. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix A.

Members raised the following topics:

- Noted highways as an area of concern which affected all residents and on which Members received a large volume of correspondence; further noted concern that Members were not consulted upon regarding the major changes proposed in the Highways Service noting concern in the loss of local knowledge in the Highways team and the lack of information provided by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure.
- Highlighted Your Fund Surrey as an area of concern, that proper governance was critical noting that the rules setting out the detail on the spend of the £100 million had been delayed and queried when the change in the Advisory Panel making the final decision on shortlisted applications was made.
- Noted supported living units as an area of concern, ensuring value for money was vital; further noted Cabinet's recent approval for a feasibility costs for four sites of which £1 million of the £1.9 million feasibility costs was for demolition and queried why no formal valuation report was taken to Cabinet on the £16 million purchase of the Dakota building in Brooklands.

- That as a 'critical friend' it was right to highlight the above issues of concern to the Council's current Conservative Party administration recognising the balance with Covid-19 recovery and looking out for the disadvantaged.
- That with the upcoming lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, questioned whether the Leader would encourage residents to continue to wear face masks in the absence of legal requirements.
- Welcomed the Leader's mention of the recent Ofsted visit and full inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services of Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, hoping that the relevant select committees would review the reports.
- Disagreed that the public would struggle to meet the Council's climate change commitments as many members of the public were urging local and national authorities to tackle the climate emergency; offered cross-party support to meet that commitment and hoped that the ambitions set out in the updated Surrey Transport Plan - LTP4 would be followed up with action and funding.
- Noted that Covid-19 showed the need to get ahead of the curve, crucial with the upcoming lifting of Covid-19 restrictions on 19 July as infection rates and hospital admissions increase; asked the Council to lobby the Government to ensure that the vulnerable were protected.
- That early intervention was in health was vital by reversing the Council's underfunding of public health querying what plans there were to support those with long Covid-19 and the wider mental health needs in Surrey.
- Queried how the Leader's call to encourage more residents to 'join up and join in' applied to children's early intervention, supporting families and the provision of universal youth support.
- Asked how the social care system would be transformed from an early intervention approach, addressing the systemic underfunding of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- On early intervention regarding roads, asked whether the Leader had approached the Department for Transport for funding as Surrey had received a £400 million cut for local road maintenance; Government funding was needed to realise the Surrey Transport Plan - LTP4 focusing on road safety and sustainability measures not at the expense of Government funding on international road expansion and house building on Surrey's green belt.
- Asked whether the Leader would call on the Government to reduce handouts for incineration, early intervention on waste was crucial in order to boost plans to eliminate single-use plastics in Surrey and to reuse and recycle ensuring a green economy.
- That earlier intervention on climate change was critical, going further than reversing earlier cuts to building maintenance towards retrofitting schools, buildings and transport networks.
- Early intervention and the reversal of funding for late intervention was vital, asked the Leader to reset the approach to fairer funding for Surrey by lobbying for sufficient long-term sustainable funding for all councils.
- On the Surrey Transport Plan - LTP4, welcomed the Leader's commitment to increase bus services and asked whether that meant a reversal in cuts in routes and timetables over the past decade and an improvement in transport links across Surrey going forward.
- Referred to a previous original motion adopted by the Council which stated that Surrey would not approve any further expansion of Heathrow Airport until there was a firm commitment to ensuring adequate train links to Surrey

and asked whether the Leader would reiterate his commitment to a train route improving transport links between Heathrow Airport and Surrey.

- Noted that many members of staff found the journey to Woodhatch Place, Reigate longer than their previous route to County Hall, Kingston; asked whether the Leader would put in place a policy to encourage car sharing or a method to facilitate easier access to and from Reigate train station.

#### **48/21 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 6]**

##### **Questions:**

Notice of twenty-two questions had been received. The questions and replies were published in the supplementary agenda on 12 July 2021.

A number of supplementary questions were asked and a summary of the main points is set out below.

The Chair explained that in light of the unique set-up of the meeting due to Covid-19, the supplementary questions were to be grouped by the relevant Cabinet Member who would respond to all the supplementaries together:

##### **MARK NUTI, CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES**

**(Q5) Catherine Powell** asked whether the Cabinet Member could provide the Council with a map of the applications for Your Fund Surrey (YFS) overlaid on a colour-coded map of the Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) to highlight the deprived areas at greatest risk of being left behind, so intervention can be targeted.

She further asked whether the Cabinet Member could provide a list of all of the applications that had been made to YFS including an additional column on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

In response the Cabinet Member noted that he would look to get the requested information and explained that YFS was not designated specifically for deprived areas but for communities as a whole recognising that some areas required more help and services than others.

He urged Members to talk to their communities and to help them with projects that would benefit their areas. There were at present over one hundred and forty applications to the YFS website, a low number in respect of the aim of YFS to get communities involved. Whilst it was too early to provide data with the funding process to start later in the month, over the next year the applications would be monitored and areas would be identified where greater resources were needed to bring forward projects.

**(Q8) Robert Evans** noted that even before the last round of cuts to the SFRS under the Making Surrey Safer Plan, Home Office statistics showed that Surrey had seen the sharpest rise in the number of deaths in house fires. He asked the Cabinet Member whether it was the case that there were no plans to restore the number for firefighters in Surrey or if he could rule out further cuts in the numbers over the next few years.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that there were more firefighters coming through with a passing out ceremony taking place on 25 July. The

combination of more firefighters, ensuring a service fit for purpose, utilising new and effective technology meant that Surrey was safe and was getting safer daily, he reassured Members and residents that the SFRS protected Surrey and prevented fires from happening.

**Robert King** asked whether the Cabinet Member could rule out further closures to fire stations across the county in the future.

The Cabinet Member explained that since the 2018 report which stated that SFRS was not fit for purpose, SFRS over the past eighteen months had been revamped but noted that there was more work to do. He emphasised that the number of fire stations was irrelevant, what mattered was the safety of Surrey's residents with fire appliances and engines constantly moved to high risk areas.

### **MATT FURNISS, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**(Q1) Jonathan Hulley** welcomed the Cabinet's decision to promote the HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicle) Watch scheme and welcomed the recent election of Lisa Townsend as the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey (PCC). He asked the Cabinet Member what steps he intended to take to ensure that the PCC and Surrey Police would provide the operational support needed to ensure that the scheme was a success initially in the pilot areas and then across Surrey.

In response, the Cabinet Member welcomed the election of the new PCC and noted the work between the Highways Service and Surrey Police, noting the Government announcement on local authorities outside of London able to levy fines on moving traffic offences from the autumn. He noted the collaborative work on Drive SMART, operational support from Surrey Police including their powers to fine repeat offenders; the additional powers granted from the Government would allow the Highways Service to a greater role on enforcement.

**Robert King** asked whether the Cabinet Member would commit to reviewing the diversionary routes - many through residential areas, noting speeding incidents - for the mandatory HGV routes for when the M25 was closed. He asked whether he would consider a review with Highways England and the provision of additional safety measures.

The Cabinet Member noted that he would raise the issue on the HGV diversion routes in relation to the closure of the M25 again with Highways England. He noted that concerns about speeding should be raised with Surrey Police, or to liaise with him regarding establishing a local HGV Watch.

**(Q4) Nick Darby** had no supplementary question.

**Chris Townsend** responded to the Leader's earlier comment by noting that answering highways queries from residents was part of Members' duty. Referring to the proposed Highways reorganisation he noted dissatisfaction with the response given at the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure Decisions, he asked the Cabinet Member to explain how the reorganisation would improve the service delivered to residents and how the increased centralised structure would improve that.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that following the conclusion of the staff consultation, the proposals would be shared with Members and he

emphasised that the purpose of the restructuring was to increase the engagement, quality, capacity and consistency of all the Highways services provided to Members and residents.

In a later comment the Leader clarified that Members unfortunately had to spend a substantial amount of time dealing with residents' highways issues, noting that he hoped the Highways reorganisation and additional funding would deliver the required improvements.

**(Q7) Lance Spencer** noted that in the past two months he had received fifty pieces of casework the majority related to Active Travel and asked whether the Cabinet Member would consider setting up a fund for Active Travel similar to that of YFS, in order to provide additional capital funds for projects that would encourage Active Travel to reduce car journeys in line with the Surrey Transport Plan - LTP4 and Surrey's Greener Future action plans.

In response, the Cabinet Member noted the existing similar website for the Active Travel Fund, in which a significant number of suggestions had been received from residents for improvements. He explained that the Government awarded Surrey just under £6.5 million in the second round of Active Travel funding and Surrey's bid for a third round was underway and would look to include what additional financial measures would be required to take forward one hundred of the schemes proposed by Surrey's residents.

**Jonathan Essex** asked the Cabinet Member whether he could confirm that the new highways specification would be updated when the new Future Highways contract was set so that local failures such as the collapse of speed humps could be included as defects. He further suggested the strengthening of the contract by having an early intervention approach addressing issues such as the delay of filling potholes until they were at least forty millimetres deep undermining road integrity and increasing the need for re-surfacing; and asked if it was possible to separate the contract for pothole filling.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that the Future Highways contract was in its final stage with information on bidders included in his Cabinet Member Briefing. He noted that the Highways Service was constantly reviewing how improvements could be made, policies were set by the Highways Service who sought to achieve best value for money for Surrey's residents and not by the contractor. He noted that the forty millimetre threshold for pothole filling was a national average for highway authorities across the UK and was one of reasons that Surrey installed artificial intelligence (AI) cameras in all highways vehicles so it could identify potholes before they reached that depth. He did not agree with the suggestion of separating funding out for particular elements.

**(Q9) Catherine Baart** noted that she had asked specifically for a list of twenty miles per hour speed limit zones and dates proposed to the Local Committees and dates when the first signs went up and requested a written response providing that detail.

In response, the Cabinet Member noted that it was important to set out the most recent twenty miles per hour speed limit schemes approved by Surrey, he noted that he would provide the list to all Members of the ten most recent twenty miles per hour speed limit zones and the dates introduced.

**(Q18) Robert Evans** noted the need for greater co-operation such as through joint initiatives or bodies with London Boroughs bordering Surrey such as Hounslow, Hillingdon and Slough. Noting the re-election of Sadiq Khan as the Mayor of London, he asked whether the Cabinet Member thought the Council should have better formal links with the Mayor of London and Member-to-Member links with the Greater London Assembly (GLA).

In response, the Cabinet Member noted the further difficult discussions going forward with the Mayor of London and the GLA on the possible Greater London Boundary Charge. The Highways Service would look to foster better relations with the Mayor of London and GLA, but noted disappointment that announcements were often made without Surrey being briefed.

**(Q20) Jonathan Essex** understood that from the response it meant that there would be an additional £3 million in funding to meet the backlog of forty-nine out of seventy-eight school safety measures outstanding since 2014 concerning the Road Safety Outside Schools policy, and asked whether the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure could confirm when that £3 million would be available to meet the backlog. He noted that the report explained that there would be an additional twenty-one assessments scheduled and in addition to the £3 million one-off funding to address the backlog, whether the Cabinet Member would propose additional capital funding to ensure that when measures came up for school safety audits they would be responded to without delay.

In response, the Cabinet Member noted that it was his intention to remove the capital funding stream for school safety from the Local Committees and to provide a dedicated fund to the school safety team so it could use the funding without competing with other local requests received through the Local Committees.

## **CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**(Q6) Fiona White** noted that the response highlighted the substantial funding cuts to the Children's Service and asked the Cabinet Member for Children and Families whether she agreed that children's futures must be a priority and that early intervention was key for families and children, in turn placing less strain on public funding. She asked the Cabinet Member whether she reviewed the high workload of family support workers who had limited time available for each family.

In response, the Cabinet Member stressed that early intervention and prevention were fundamental principles across the work of the Children's Service, supported by increased funding and resources. She noted that the Service had worked to build an effective Early Help network. Detailed information about the number of families who approached the system and were stepped up and down from statutory services as well as on the caseloads of all staff were regularly monitored.

**George Potter** noted that the responses to parts b) and c) of the question did not answer the points raised, part b) asked about the measurement of progress in achieving the effective provision of services through the Family Centre models following the closure of Children's Centres. Part c) asked for the steps taken to assess the impact of the withdrawal of support through the Children's Centres. He noted a closure in a Children's Centre adjacent to his division which meant an hour journey to the nearest Family Centre.

He asked to have qualitative and quantitative data on whether the goal of effective service provision had been achieved from the move to the Family Centre model and whether families and children in need had been left behind or not.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that the work of Family Centres was targeted to those families most in need of those services, families who did not meet the criteria for Early Help were sign-posted to universal services in communities. She echoed the comment in the Leader's Statement about compassionate communities and local networks of support. She noted that Family Centres worked on the basis of outreach and for the Member to liaise with her on a specific example.

**(Q10) John Robini** asked the Cabinet Member whether there would be a cohesive children's and families plan across the county, as it appeared that some communities like his division - particularly those disadvantaged - did not have the universal models in place.

In response, the Cabinet Member noted the hard work of the commissioning team to ensure a county-wide provision of youth services which it monitored closely. She noted that in addition to the commissioning of universal services in buildings owned by the Council, in every Borough and District there were other local providers of youth work, highlighting the Leatherhead Youth Project and Bookham Youth Project.

**(Q11) Jonathan Essex** asked the Cabinet Member whether the review of the Surrey County Council youth estate in the autumn would include the estate locations where Community, Voluntary and Faith Sector (CVFS) organisations were not using Council buildings in order to see if a new dedicated facility for youth work was required and if not the case he queried how the gap in the provision of universal youth work by CVFS organisations and others could be closed in order to prevent a postcode lottery.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained within the review of the youth estate there would be a detailed review of the usage of the buildings and the provision across the county by providers including the third sector. She invited all Members who knew of local youth work provision by other external providers in their divisions to be involved in that review.

**(Q22) Jonathan Essex** asked whether the Cabinet Member could confirm who the Council was contracting the Family Centres to, when the contract would run to and how the contract was monitored.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that she would provide written answers on the above in relation to the contracts, reiterating that the all the work in the Family Centres was closely monitored, quarterly at the level of individual Family Centres and monthly across the Children's Service.

**Lance Spencer** noted that it was clear that the closure of the Sure Start centres would lead to an increase in demand for mental health services, he asked the Cabinet Member whether the Cabinet Member could say how long on average and what the maximum time was for children have to wait to get an assessment through the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and whether those times had increased since those closures.

In response, the Cabinet Member disagreed that the closure of any Sure Start centres would have impacted on the emotional health and wellbeing of children, as those centres were for young families. Provision for youth emotional health and wellbeing support was delivered through Youth Havens, youth workers and schools as well as early intervention and prevention support through the new I-Thrive model in operation since April. She noted that she would provide a written response containing the details of waiting times and any historic delays regarding CAMHS assessments.

#### **MARISA HEATH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**(Q2) Jeremy Webster** welcomed the recent arrangements set out in the response allowing pedestrian access at certain times and asked the Cabinet Member that once Covid-19 restrictions were relaxed whether the Caterham Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and other similar CRCs would return to mixed vehicular and pedestrian access in normal hours.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that the aim would be to return to pre-Covid-19 hours and access, noting the importance of encouraging people to access the CRCs. That in the next couple of months she would be working to ensure that pedestrian access could be done safely through a pedestrian gateway and would keep the Member informed.

**(Q12) Trefor Hogg** noted that as the Chair of Surrey Tree Warden Network charity, he asked what was being done regarding trees - particularly street trees. He praised the first-year achievement of the planting of nearly a quarter of a million trees and asked the Cabinet Member how many trees were expected to be planted in 2021 and how voluntary organisations would be helped to participate in the effort.

In response, the Cabinet Member suggested that she and the Member have a separate meeting to address the above points raised. She explained that Surrey's New Tree Strategy which included the planting of 1.2 million trees by 2030 would be reviewed to consider how trees were managed across the county and Surrey's highways, ensuring that as many trees as possible would be protected.

#### **TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

**(Q3) Eber Kington** noted that he would continue to ask questions on the issue of highly paid directors as it was a concern of his residents. Unsatisfied with the written response, he asked the Leader to provide a written answer to part II. of his question concerning the Council's future plans for its workforce.

In response, the Leader using the example of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, assumed an average of two or in some cases three senior officers earning above £100,000 across all of Surrey's Borough and District Councils, which equated to twenty-four compared to twenty-six officers in Surrey County Council earning above £100,000. Across a population of 1.2 million residents and a £1 billion budget, that was not disproportionate. He highlighted that there was full transparency on the publication of senior salaries, as those were published in the Statement of Accounts.

The Leader noted that part II. of the question had been answered in his written response referring to the third paragraph which stated that the only planned

recruitment to PS18 was for the permanent appointment to the Executive Director - Customers and Communities.

Under SO 16.1 (c) Eber Kington stated that his question did not relate to the transparency concerning senior officer salaries, but the rising number of officers with salaries over £100,000.

## **NATALIE BRAMHALL, CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY**

**(Q21) Catherine Baart** asked the Cabinet Member whether an officer was working to a deadline for the delivery plan - regarding the Woodhatch Place travel plan - which would be delivered to the Cabinet Member.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that an officer was working to a deadline and she would share the delivery plan once received.

**Cabinet Member Briefings:** these were also published in the supplementary agenda on 12 July 2021.

There were no questions asked by Members.

### **49/21 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS [Item 7]**

Keith Witham made a statement on the illegal waste site at Stoney Castle in Pirbright, urging the Council to continue to work with partners to decontaminate the site and bring those responsible to justice.

Jan Mason made a statement on the lack of youth provision in West Ewell, referring to the Watersedge Estate and the local Edge Youth Centre noting concern that it was only open one evening a week; Youth Centres were vital to health of young people.

### **50/21 ORIGINAL MOTIONS [Item 8]**

#### **Item 8 (i)**

Under Standing Order 12.3 the Council agreed to debate this motion.

Under Standing Order 12.1 Eber Kington moved:

#### **This Council notes that:**

- Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard on the evening of 3 March 2021, ensuring the right to feel safe walking our streets at night has become a major requirement for political action across the country.
- Women have made their voices heard, and too many of them express the view that they do not feel safe walking alone in public places.
- Speaking in March, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police said, "Right now, 80% of women report being harassed in public spaces, but 90% of them don't bother reporting it because they don't think anything will happen if they do."

- The immediate Government response to Sarah’s murder included an additional £25 million to councils around the country to help enhance street lighting in areas of poor illumination, as well as improving CCTV coverage.
- The issue of feeling safe at night has also been raised by Surrey residents who are night-time workers, late night commuters out of London, those attending late night music venues, and those walking home after meeting family and friends.

**This Council further notes that:**

- Surrey County Council has a policy that sees Surrey streetlights switched off at night, at a time when the political debate and majority opinion is clearly calling for streetlighting to be improved as one of the positive moves that can be taken towards residents feeling safe in our streets.
- Surrey County Council is investing £19.9 million over a 3-year period to convert all Surrey’s streetlights to LED, with a target saving of £2 million a year.

**In light of the factors listed above, this Council calls upon to the Cabinet:**

- I. To make a commitment to end the streetlight switch-off as soon as is practicable, but as a matter of urgency.
- II. To fund the additional costs out of the £2 million saving on the switch to LED streetlights.

Eber Kington made the following points:

- Noted the failure by the Council’s administration to put forward a speaker to defend its part-night lighting policy on BBC Radio Surrey, instead providing a statement.
- That it had taken tragic events to highlight the injustices and fears faced by many and for their voices to be heard to inspire national and international action; noting the political and social movements following the sexual abuse cases brought against Harvey Weinstein - #MeToo - and murders of George Floyd - Black Lives Matter - and Sarah Everard - Reclaim These Streets.
- That the right to feel safe on the streets had become a major requirement for action by the Government providing an additional £25 million for councils to enhance street lighting and improve CCTV, the Metropolitan Police deployed twenty-five female neighbourhood officers in Lambeth and Southwark to hear the common concerns of women.
- Noted national action to address the issue of better street lighting and disappointment with the Council’s response to switch street lights back on if Surrey Police requested it, as opposed to residents’ requests.
- That 87% of women at some point in their lives did not feel safe at night and wanted those in power to respond and take action.
- Noted the Council’s outdated policy and inactive approach on street lighting launched in 2016 which did not address the fears of many, compared to national action through the Safer Streets Fund.

- That the Council was currently spending £3.5 million on energy use, by converting to light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting 60% less energy would be used so saving £2 million annually also reducing light pollution.
- That the cost of keeping all the street lights on all night in Surrey once converted to LED would be £113,000, a small sum towards safer streets.
- Recognised that improved street lighting alone would not result in safer streets, physical changes such as moving bus stops were also important, but such changes were worthless if men's attitudes did not change.
- That whilst he could not speak on behalf of women's direct experiences, such experiences were all too common to be ignored - it was vital to support policy decisions and actions that would lead to change.
- That support of the motion would signal the Council's acknowledgement of the voices calling for safer streets and it would end the part-night lighting policy.

The motion was formally seconded by Catherine Powell, who made the following comments:

- Emphasised that all residents had the right to feel safe so that their emotions and behaviours led them to thrive rather than survive.
- Highlighted that not all incidents of sexual harassment were reported to the police, an investigation by UN Women UK found that 97% of women aged 18-24 years had been sexually harassed and a further 96% did not report those incidents because of the belief that nothing would change.
- That the Council was working towards empowering communities, to address inequalities and improve health and wellbeing; and so all had a right to feel safe when walking the streets, yet most women felt unsafe when walking home at night when street lights were switched off.
- That there had been little improvement to women's feeling of safety in the last thirty years, noting sadness in needing to share advice on key holding for self-defence to her daughters.
- Reiterated the small cost to the Council of £113,000 to keep the street lights switched on all night - once converted to LED Surrey-wide.
- Recognised the need to address climate change and the issues caused by light pollution but noted that the mental and wellbeing of young women was paramount.
- Urged the Council to support the motion to stand up for the silent majority and to build thriving and unfearful communities.

Catherine Baart moved an amendment which had been published in the supplementary agenda (12 July 2021), which was formally seconded by Robert King.

The amendment was as follows (with additional words in bold/underlined and deletions crossed through):

**This Council notes that:**

- Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard on the evening of 3 March 2021, ~~ensuring the right to feel safe walking our streets at night has become a major requirement for political action across the country.~~
- ~~W~~omen have made their voices heard, and too many of them express the view that they do not feel safe walking alone in public places. Speaking in March, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police said, "Right now, 80% of women report being harassed in public spaces, but 90% of them don't bother reporting it because they don't think anything will happen if they do."
- The immediate Government response to Sarah's murder included an additional £25 million to councils around the country to **fund innovative and creative proposals to improve the safety of public spaces including improving** ~~help enhance~~ street lighting in areas of poor illumination, ~~as well as improving~~ **and** CCTV coverage, **education and awareness raising (Safer Streets Fund Round 3 – Protecting Public Spaces Guidance for Bidders, June 2021).**
- The issue of feeling safe at night has also been raised by Surrey residents who are night-time workers, late night commuters out of London, those attending late night music venues, and those walking home after meeting family and friends. **In contrast, light pollution is widely recognised as having impacts on both sleep patterns and on nature.**
- **Further investigation into what makes everyone safer in all streets at night as well as at specific locations is warranted.**
- **Surrey's street lights can now be turned on and off individually, and as they are LED lights are now able to be dimmed to lower lighting levels than before, and could be activated using motion sensors, as successfully trialled elsewhere.**

**This Council further notes that:**

- Surrey County Council has a policy that sees Surrey streetlights switched off at night, at a time when the political debate and majority opinion is clearly calling for streetlighting to be improved as one of the positive moves that can be taken towards residents feeling safe in our streets.
- Surrey County Council is investing £19.9 million over a 3-year period to convert all Surrey's streetlights to LED, with a target saving of £2 million **and 7,700 tonnes of carbon emissions** a year; **as agreed in the 2021/22 budget and medium term financial strategy.**

**In light of the factors listed above, this Council calls upon to the Cabinet:**

- To make a commitment to end the streetlight switch-off as soon as is practicable, but as a matter of urgency, **by making full use of the LED street light technology available to have selected lights back on, with a range of brightness settings.**
- ~~To fund the additional costs out of the £2 million saving on the switch to LED streetlights.~~

III. **To set out how changes to streetlight settings can be targeted in areas with higher of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and areas of higher public safety need, in line with the guidance for the Safer Streets Fund, through engagement with residents and the police.**

Catherine Baart spoke to her amendment, making the following points:

- That in her direct experience men who decide to harass women do not wait to night-time or darkness, instead they were influenced by others around them likely to intervene.
- Stressed that solely switching all street lights back on all the time would not make both women and men feel safe, awareness raising and education about behaviours to help others feel safe on the streets at night was vital.
- That it was important to acknowledge the disadvantages to having street lights on all night including light pollution, harming sleep and nocturnal wildlife.
- That when deciding to alter levels of illumination the Council should listen to its residents and acknowledge that crime data held by Surrey Police did not always reflect residents' feelings of safety, often harassment incidents were not reported.
- That active travel at night would help people's feeling of safety and the new LED street light technology should be used intelligently and flexibly.

The amendment was formally seconded by Robert King, who reserved his right to speak.

*Mark Nuti left the meeting at 12.00 pm*

Eber Kington did not accept the amendment and therefore the amendment was open for debate.

Four Members made the following comments on the amendment:

- Expressed concern on the fourth bullet point concerning light pollution as a counter to the motion, noting a past experience where conventional street lighting was shown to be adjustable in its direction and voltage; and questioned whether that was the case with LED street lighting.
- Noted that not feeling safe walking the streets at night-time was applicable also to children.
- Stressed that crucial to the debate was both the feeling and perception of safety. Referring to LED street lights, queried whether they would 'be activated using motion sensors' in the additional sixth bullet point.
- That in the second resolution, noted the omission of the word 'levels' in the sentence 'higher [...] of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)' and that it was wrong to suggest that there could be a justifiable level of violence.
- That in the second resolution it was incorrect to target 'areas of higher public safety need', referred again to the feeling and perception of safety.
- Agreed with the proposer of the original motion that street lighting was not the sole action to remedy public safety at night, a culture was needed in which people felt safe and able to report incidents to the police.

- Stressed that continuing to work closely with Surrey Police was crucial and the original motion and first amendment did not go far enough in its collaboration, it was vital to ensure that the Surrey Police and Crime Panel was raising the issue of public safety with the PCC.
- Had sympathy with the amendment which recognised the importance of education in schools on personal safety for all, rather than instilling fear such as holding keys as a weapon.
- That it was crucial to stop the inherited fear of the dark.
- That when the Council first implemented its policy on switching off some street lights between 1am - 5am back in 2016, Members were asked on which roads street lights should remain on and noted that all twenty-eight requests in her division from residents were upheld and that option remained available.

Eber Kington noted the following comments in response to not accepting the amendment:

- That it was not possible to agree a compromise between the motion and amendment as the national debate was centred on both the feeling and perception of safety particularly by women on the streets at night-time.
- That the amendment ran a risk inherent in the current policy which allowed the politicians and police to determine what was right for residents regardless of their own perceptions.
- That it was important that people expressed their own experiences.
- Reiterated the call for change by the motion by recognising the 80% of women who did not feel safe at night or at some point in their lives in public spaces and the 96% of women who did not report such incidents.
- That the focus must not be on educating women not to fear, questioning why men could not be educated so their actions do not lead to women feeling unsafe.
- Questioned the deletion in the first bullet point on 'ensuring the right to feel safe walking our streets at night has become a major requirement for political action across the country'.
- That the addition in the first resolution on switching on 'selected lights' fell into the trap of current policy making decisions before looking at the evidence.
- Questioned how the second resolution could be supported regarding targeting changes to street light settings in areas of higher violence levels.

Robert King, the seconder of the amendment, made the following comments:

- Noted that due to his on gender and age he had different experiences to women and other individuals of a different age.
- Noted that whilst the concerns by women, shift workers and NHS workers in his division who did not feel safe on the streets at night were not solely related to street lighting, it played an important role in relation to CCTV cameras.
- That the Council must not shirk its responsibility over public safety, recognising that police resources were stretched proving it challenging for Members to get street lights turned on, the amendment sought greater engagement.

- That the original motion was based on the study by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in 2015 which tried to link street lights being turned off to crime rises, but there was no conclusive link found.
- That crime prevention was as much about public awareness and the perception of crime so actions must be taken including but not limited to turning street lights on in affected areas.

The Chair asked Catherine Baart, as proposer of the amendment to conclude the debate:

Noted that she had no further comments to add.

The amendment was put to the vote with 16 Members voting For, 51 voting Against and 1 Abstention.

Therefore the amendment was lost.

Returning to the substantive motion, Matt Furniss moved an amendment which had been published in the supplementary agenda (12 July 2021), which was formally seconded by Tim Hall.

The amendment was as follows (with additional words in bold/underlined and deletions crossed through):

**This Council notes that:**

- Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard on the evening of 3 March 2021, ~~ensuring the right to feel safe walking our streets at night has become a major requirement for political action across the country.~~ **by an officer of the Police has left the public and everyone in policing feeling betrayed. It is never right for, talented young woman who had her whole life ahead of her to have it snatched away.**
- Women have made their voices heard, and too many of them express the view that they do not feel safe walking alone in public places.
- Speaking in March, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police said, "Right now, 80% of women report being harassed in public spaces, but 90% of them don't bother reporting it because they don't think anything will happen if they do."
- The immediate Government response to Sarah's murder included an additional £25 million to councils around the country to help enhance street lighting in areas of poor illumination, as well as improving CCTV coverage. **And that Surrey County Council welcomed the new round of the Safer Streets Fund announced by the Government this week.**
- The issue of feeling safe at night has also been raised by Surrey residents who are night-time workers, late night commuters out of London, those attending late night music venues, and those walking home after meeting family and friends.

**This Council further notes that:**

- ~~Surrey County Council has a policy that sees Surrey streetlights switched off at night, at a time when the political debate and majority opinion is clearly calling for streetlighting to be improved as one of the positive moves that can be taken towards residents feeling safe in our streets.~~
- Surrey County Council is investing £19.9 million over a 3-year period to convert all Surrey's streetlights to LED, with a target saving of £2 million a year.
- **As of 2021 Surrey has converted in excess of 26,000 lights to LED.**
- **Surrey's Street lights are currently only switched off between 1am and 5am and those on main roads and town centres remain on all night. Lights on pedestrian routes at train stations, hospitals and Universities etc. go off an hour after the last train or 1am if later.**
- **The requests this Council has received regarding Part Night-time Lighting from members of the public and Surrey Police are as follows:**

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Total Streetlight Enquiries recorded</u>	<u>Police Requests</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<u>2017</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Commencement of Part Night-time Lighting, most enquiries relate to appeals or initial objection/support</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>2019</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>3</u>	
<u>2020</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>2021</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>	

- **That any crime or safety concerns received, this Council always refers them to Surrey Police to log.**
- **That if Surrey Police formally ask this Council to turn lights back on (either permanently or for a defined period of time), we do so. These requests need to come from the Borough Commander, and they will provide reasoning and rationale.**
- **Surrey County Council takes safety and crime prevention very seriously. We always want to listen to residents and work together to provide the safest environment possible.**
- **If Councillors have concerns about high pedestrian traffic areas they can raise this with Highways Team and the Cabinet Member to make the case for lights to remain on longer. This has happened with routes at train stations, hospitals and Universities etc routes will need clear reasoning, rationale with a majority resident support and consideration of local environmental impact to extend lighting over Police views.**

In light of the factors listed above, this Council calls upon to the Cabinet:

- I. ~~To make a commitment to end the streetlight switch-off as soon as is practicable, but as a matter of urgency.~~ **To raise the concerns of public safety at night with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable of Surrey Police in order to continue to support the Police in their role in keeping Surrey residents safe; and to see if there are any areas disproportionately affected by neighbourhood and acquisitive crime in which we can support a Surrey Police or a joint Surrey Police and SCC bid for prevention interventions such as home security new and street lighting.**
- II. ~~To fund the additional costs out of the £2 million saving on the switch to LED streetlights.~~ **To review Part Night-time Lighting once the LED rollout has been completed and factor in environmental and safety grounds in addition to financial benefits.**
- III. **To inform Divisional Councillors of locations where a Part Night-time Lighting safety request is made by a Surrey resident so they too can raise any points with Surrey Police.**

Matt Furniss moved an amendment to his amendment above, which was formally seconded by Tim Hall.

The amended amendment was as follows (with additional words in bold/underlined and deletions crossed through):

**This Council notes that:**

- Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard on the evening of 3 March 2021, ~~ensuring the right to feel safe walking our streets at night has become a major requirement for political action across the country.~~ **it is important to ensure that people feel safe walking our streets. Women have made their voices heard about feeling unsafe walking alone in public places.**
- ~~Women have made their voices heard, and too many of them express the view that they do not feel safe walking alone in public places.~~
- Speaking in March, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police said, "Right now, 80% of women report being harassed in public spaces, but 90% of them don't bother reporting it because they don't think anything will happen if they do."
- The immediate Government response to Sarah's murder included an additional £25 million to **Safer Streets Fund to fund innovative and creative proposals to improve the safety of public spaces including improving street lighting,** ~~councils around the country to help enhance street lighting in areas of poor illumination, as well as improving CCTV coverage,~~ **education and awareness raising all of which is welcomed by Surrey County Council.**
- The issue of feeling safe at night has also been raised by Surrey residents who are night-time workers, late night commuters out of London, those

attending late night music venues, and those walking home after meeting family and friends.

- **In contrast, light pollution is widely recognised as having impacts on both sleep patterns and on nature.**
- **Further investigation into what makes everyone safer in all streets at night, as well as at specific locations is warranted, in partnership with Surrey Police.**
- **Surrey’s streetlights can now be turned on and off individually, and as they are LED lights are now able to be dimmed to lower lighting levels than before.**

This Council further notes that:

- ~~Surrey County Council has a policy that sees Surrey streetlights switched off at night, at a time when the political debate and majority opinion is clearly calling for streetlighting to be improved as one of the positive moves that can be taken towards residents feeling safe in our streets.~~
- Surrey County Council is investing £19.9 million over a 3-year period to convert all Surrey’s streetlights to LED, with a target saving of £2 million a year, **and 7,700 tonnes of carbon emissions a year, as agreed in the 2021/22 budget and medium term financial strategy.**
- **As of June 2021 Surrey, has converted 37,546 street lights to LED with a 70.73% energy cost saving.**
- **Surrey’s Street lights are currently only switched off between 1am and 5am and those on main roads and town centres remain on all night. Lights on pedestrian routes at train stations, hospitals and Universities etc. go off an hour after the last train or 1am if later.**
- **The requests this Council has received regarding Part Night-time Lighting from members of the public and Surrey Police are as follows:**

<b><u>Calendar Year</u></b>	<b><u>Total Streetlight Enquiries recorded</u></b>	<b><u>Police Requests</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>377</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>Commencement of Part Night-time Lighting, most enquiries relate to appeals or initial objection/support</u></b>
<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>82</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	
<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>54</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	
<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>45</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	
<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>18</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	

- **Surrey County Council always refers crime or safety concerns, that it receives, to Surrey Police to log.**

- That if Surrey Police formally ask this Council to turn lights back on (either permanently or for a defined period of time), we do so. These requests need to come from the Borough Commander, providing reasoning and rationale.
- Surrey County Council takes safety and crime prevention very seriously, and always wants to listen to residents and work together to provide the safest environment possible.
- If Councillors have concerns about public safety in pedestrian traffic areas they can raise this with Highways Team and the Cabinet Member to make the case for lights to remain on longer. This has happened with routes at train stations, hospitals, Universities etc. Routes need clear reasoning and rationale with a majority strong resident support and plus consideration of local environmental impact, to extend lighting over Police views.

In light of the factors listed above, this Council calls upon to the Cabinet:

- I. To make a commitment to ~~end~~ review the streetlight switch-off as soon as is practicable and factor in environmental and safety grounds in addition to financial benefits., ~~but as a matter of urgency.~~
- II. To engage the public and raise the concerns of public safety at night with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable of Surrey Police in order to continue to support the Police in their role in keeping Surrey residents safe.
- III. ~~To fund the additional costs out of the £2 million saving on the switch to LED streetlights.~~ To see with Surrey Police, if there are any areas with higher rates of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and areas of higher public safety need, plus areas disproportionately affected by neighbourhood and acquisitive crime in which we can support a Surrey Police or a joint Surrey Police and SCC bid for prevention interventions such as home security and new street lighting.
- IV. To inform Divisional Councillors of locations where a Part Night-time Lighting safety request is made by a Surrey resident so they too can raise any points with Surrey Police.

Matt Furniss spoke to his amended amendment, making the following points:

- Re-emphasised the need to improve public safety which must be done in partnership with Surrey Police and through resident engagement.
- Noted the need to look at the number of requests regarding the part-night lighting policy received by the Council from residents and Surrey Police over the past few years.
- That the Council referred any crime or safety concerns received to Surrey Police and the Council would switch street lights back on night if requested by Surrey Police - either permanently or for a defined period of time.
- Stressed that the Council took crime and safety seriously, if Members or residents had concerns they could raise those with him as Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the Highways Team.

- That at the request of Members with support by residents, several routes in town centres, hospitals and key transport routes around train stations had street lights which stay on longer for people get home safely.
- That the perception of safety on streets was important irrespective of the time of day, the Council must continue to engage with Surrey Police as it was responsible for upholding public safety, engaging with the new PCC and the Chief Constable, as well as residents.
- That his amended amendment went further than the motion by providing defined actions.
- That referring to the third resolution he was happy to remove the wording of 'higher' used twice, however it was still vital to work with Surrey Police to identify further areas of concern.

The amended amendment was formally seconded by Tim Hall, who reserved his right to speak.

Eber Kington did not accept the amended amendment and therefore the amended amendment was open for debate.

Nine Members made the following comments on the amended amendment:

- Noted concern in the sentences removed and the unnecessary addition in the first bullet point as the importance of people feeling safe walking the streets was indisputable.
- That the seventh additional bullet point referring to 'further investigation' highlighted that the Council was good at deferring rather than taking action.
- That the table referencing figures for 2021 was misleading alluding to lower enquiries and requests as the figures could not be for the full year.
- Questioned why the part-night lighting policy could not be ended rather than reviewed as noted in the first bullet point, the Council to sought to delay the matter rather than make a decision.
- Welcomed the proposer of the amendment's agreement to remove the two references to 'higher', its original inclusion was a concern.
- That the safety of people on Surrey's streets particularly women was vital for the Council and the Borough and District Councils to take seriously.
- Supported the amendment as the tragic murder of Sarah Everard being attached to an ill-thought through motion was disturbing.
- Supported the amendment as it recognised the facts, noting the study in 2015 by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in 2015 in which no evidence of a link between reduced street lighting and increased crime and traffic accidents was found in the fourteen years of data from sixty-two local authorities.
- Welcomed the additional bullet point referring to light pollution as raised in the first amendment.
- Noted that whilst the figures shown in the table implied a reduction in the number of requests over the years, the reasons for reduction were unknown, they could be either the contentment with the current part-night lighting policy at night-time or a belief that nothing would change so requests were not made.

- That whilst acknowledging that the link between street lighting at night and crime and accidents was inconclusive, stressed that both the feeling and perception of feeling unsafe must be addressed.
- Noted that whilst residents in many parts of Surrey enjoyed having street lights switched off at certain hours, it was wrong that the current part-night lighting policy took a once size fits all approach.
- That street lighting was first introduced in the country because people felt unsafe to go out at night.
- That street lighting in the county was the Council's responsibility as opposed to Surrey Police's.
- Noted that the decision to switch to LED street lighting was one based on the need to act economically and ecologically efficient.
- That where there was a need on safety grounds to switch some street lights back on the Council would do so, the wholesale street light switch on would not be the right way to proceed.
- That whilst the murder of Sarah Everard had left the nation in mourning, it was distasteful to align her murder with policy decisions particularly as street lighting was not an issue in her murder.
- That locally the majority of burglaries took place during school pickup times and were monitored by the Borough Commander, night-time street lighting was not a contributing factor to burglaries.
- Noted that the amendment was correct apart from the order, in that the Council should 'review' the part-night lighting policy once 'further investigation' and engagement with residents and Surrey Police had been carried out, only then a decision should be made on the current policy.
- Questioned that if the amendment was to be carried how would the situation in the future differ to the current one, hoping that it would lead to tangible change, referring to table showing resident enquiries and Surrey Police requests regarding street lights in 2021, asked how many of those enquiries and requests in 2020 were accepted.
- Referring to the first resolution, asked what 'as soon as is practicable' meant concerning the review of the part-night lighting policy, would it be a few years or at the next feasible Cabinet meeting in the autumn.
- That residents - particularly shift workers - living in deprived areas and with houses close together had to walk a diversionary route to the main road to their home or work, which was made difficult during the hours of the part-night lighting switch off.
- Thanked the motion's proposer for raising the issue and responses showed that the Council took the matter seriously.
- That the point in the original motion by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police was confusing as the '80% of women report being harassed in public spaces' did not indicate when such incidents occurred as noted that personally they had been in daylight.
- That having confidence in policing was important so that incidents of harassment were reported to the police, so that was why the amendment was correct as partnership working between the Council and Surrey Police was crucial in order to ensure wider enforcement and public safety not just concerning street lighting.
- Emphasised the importance of cultivating biodiversity against the light pollution at night caused by street lighting.
- That public engagement was vital, noting a positive local example between the Council and the student union at Royal Holloway, University of London which had identified several roads to keep the

street lights switched on at night, urging the need to make decisions on street lighting on a case-by-case basis.

Eber Kington noted the following comments in response to not accepting the amended amendment:

- That the proposer of the amendment repeated the need to work with Surrey Police, engagement with residents was an afterthought.
- Explained that Sarah Everard's tragic death emboldened women nationally to speak about their fears, the motion sought to articulate those fears in order to seek changes to the Council's policy.
- Could not support the amendment due to the deletions, noting the partial deletion in the first bullet point and the removal of the entire second bullet point.
- That the reduction in the number of enquiries by residents over the years as noted in the table, was due to people choosing not to make such reports rather than their satisfaction with the Council's policy.
- That rather than 'review' as added to the first resolution, the Council must take action and as the policy maker it must not shift the responsibility for ensuring public safety on to Surrey Police.
- Referring to the third bullet point, no level of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) was acceptable.

Tim Hall, the seconder of the amended amendment, made the following comments:

- That the discussions had so far appeared to mix the two issues of street lighting and community safety - street lighting was only a small part of community safety.
- That the amendment recognised the need to work with Surrey Police and local police teams who were tackling issues public safety issues such as street drinking.
- Recognised that light pollution was a serious issue.
- Commended the amendment as it was practicable, based upon partnership working.

The Chair asked Matt Furniss, as proposer of the amended amendment to conclude the debate, he made the following comments:

- Noted the misrepresentation of his amendment by previous speakers, highlighting the additional sentence stating that 'it is important to ensure that people feel safe walking our streets. Women have made their voices heard about feeling unsafe walking alone in public places.'
- That the amendment recognised the importance of working together, engaging with residents and key partners such as Surrey Police in order to lead to action.
- That the reference to the 'review' of the street light switch off was included only once.
- That the issue of public safety was wider than that of street lighting.

The amended amendment was put to the vote with 37 Members voting For, 30 voting Against and no Abstentions.

Therefore the amended amendment was carried and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put to the vote with 49 Members voting For, 12 voting Against and 3 Abstentions.

Therefore it was **RESOLVED** that:

**This Council notes that:**

- Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard on the evening of 3 March 2021, it is important to ensure that people feel safe walking our streets. Women have made their voices heard about feeling unsafe walking alone in public places.
- Speaking in March, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police said, "Right now, 80% of women report being harassed in public spaces, but 90% of them don't bother reporting it because they don't think anything will happen if they do."
- The immediate Government response to Sarah's murder included an additional £25 million to Safer Streets Fund to fund innovative and creative proposals to improve the safety of public spaces including improving street lighting, CCTV coverage, education and awareness raising all of which is welcomed by Surrey County Council.
- The issue of feeling safe at night has also been raised by Surrey residents who are night-time workers, late night commuters out of London, those attending late night music venues, and those walking home after meeting family and friends.
- In contrast, light pollution is widely recognised as having impacts on both sleep patterns and on nature.
- Further investigation into what makes everyone safer in all streets at night, as well as at specific locations is warranted, in partnership with Surrey Police.
- Surrey's streetlights can now be turned on and off individually, and as they are LED lights are now able to be dimmed to lower lighting levels than before.

**This Council further notes that:**

- Surrey County Council is investing £19.9 million over a 3-year period to convert all Surrey's streetlights to LED, with a target saving of £2 million a year, and 7,700 tonnes of carbon emissions a year, as agreed in the 2021/22 budget and medium term financial strategy.
- As of June 2021 Surrey, has converted 37,546 street lights to LED with a 70.73% energy cost saving.
- Surrey's Street lights are currently only switched off between 1am and 5am and those on main roads and town centres remain on all night. Lights on

pedestrian routes at train stations, hospitals and Universities etc. go off an hour after the last train or 1am if later.

- The requests this Council has received regarding Part Night-time Lighting from members of the public and Surrey Police are as follows:

Calendar Year	Total Streetlight Enquiries recorded	Police Requests	Comments
2017	377	2	Commencement of Part Night-time Lighting, most enquiries relate to appeals or initial objection/support
2018	82	1	
2019	54	3	
2020	45	2	
2021	18	0	

- Surrey County Council always refers crime or safety concerns, that it receives, to Surrey Police to log.
- That if Surrey Police formally ask this Council to turn lights back on (either permanently or for a defined period of time), we do so. These requests need to come from the Borough Commander, providing reasoning and rationale.
- Surrey County Council takes safety and crime prevention very seriously. and always wants to listen to residents and work together to provide the safest environment possible.
- If Councillors have concerns about public safety in pedestrian traffic areas they can raise this with Highways Team and the Cabinet Member to make the case for lights to remain on longer. This has happened with routes at train stations, hospitals, Universities etc. Routes need clear reasoning and rationale with a majority strong resident support and plus consideration of local environmental impact, to extend lighting over Police views.

**In light of the factors listed above, this Council calls upon to the Cabinet:**

- I. To make a commitment to review the streetlight switch-off as soon as is practicable and factor in environmental and safety grounds in addition to financial benefits.
- II. To engage the public and raise the concerns of public safety at night with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable of Surrey Police in order to continue to support the Police in their role in keeping Surrey residents safe.
- III. To see with Surrey Police, if there are any areas with rates of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and areas of public safety need, plus

areas disproportionately affected by neighbourhood and acquisitive crime in which we can support a Surrey Police or a joint Surrey Police and SCC bid for prevention interventions such as home security and new street lighting.

- IV. To inform Divisional Councillors of locations where a Part Night-time Lighting safety request is made by a Surrey resident so they too can raise any points with Surrey Police.

**Item 8 (ii)**

Under Standing Order 12.3 the Council agreed to debate this motion.

Under Standing Order 12.1 Will Forster moved:

**This Council notes that:**

In Boris Johnson's first speech as Prime Minister in July 2019, he promised to fix the crisis in social care once and for all "with a clear plan we have prepared to give every older person the dignity and security they deserve."

**This Council also notes that:**

In October 2019 it unanimously passed a motion proposed by Lib Democrat Members that spoke to the situation in Surrey:

"With concern that, owing to Government policy, Surrey residents who pay for their own elderly care significantly subsidise the residents who rely on County to pay for their care. This is a result of an unjust and inequitable funding regime which is itself a result of inadequate government funding."

With the corresponding resolution (I.):

"This council accordingly calls on the government to bring forward urgently a sustainable solution so that councils can restore equity and enable a sustainable market for social care provision in Surrey and across the country."

**This Council further notes that:**

In the absence of the promised plan, leaders of social care organisations from across the country recently wrote to the Prime minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to urge the Government to act now on reform of England's social care system and publish its proposals before the summer recess.

**This Council resolves to:**

- I. Express its disappointment that despite repeated promises, no proposals have as yet been brought forward; and
- II. To robustly renew its call for a sustainable solution to the funding of adult social care and write to the Government and Surrey's Members of Parliament urging them to honour their promise to urgently tackle this long-term crisis, which leaves many vulnerable residents without the support they need whilst others face catastrophic costs.

Will Forster made the following points:

- That he tabled the original motion to get the Council to redouble its efforts to stand up to the Government over their failure to deliver the previously promised reforms of the adult social care system.
- Noted that the adult social care system was broken, suffering from chronic and systemic underfunding exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- That it was vital to acknowledge the country's ageing population and expense of adult social care costs.
- That adult social care was rationed leaving many vulnerable people without the support they need, with many having to pay catastrophic costs.
- Stressed that the country needed a long-term sustainable solution for addressing the real crisis in adult social care.
- That no action had been taken since Rt Hon Boris Johnson's MP first speech as Prime Minister in July 2019 where he promised to fix the crisis.
- Noted that last month the leaders of social care organisations across the country wrote to the Government urging them to act on the reform of England's adult social care system and to publish its proposals before the summer recess.
- That the Council was in a good position to urge the Government for cross-party change, noting Surrey's influential Members of Parliament and the Leader's role as chairman of the County Councils Network (CCN).

The motion was formally seconded by Liz Townsend, who made the following comments:

- Quoted from the Prime Minister's first speech in July 2019 where he said that his job was to protect individuals from the fear of selling their homes to pay for the costs of care.
- Noted that under the current system people with assets over £14,250 had to pay for part of their care costs, those with assets over £23,250 had to meet the bills in full.
- That in their letter the leaders of organisations that represented adult social care highlighted the importance in the reform debate of helping people to avoid catastrophic care costs and selling their home to pay for care.
- That the Health and Care Bill contained no clear proposals for the reform of adult social care or for its investment, leaving many with the fear of having to sell their own home to avoid high care bills.
- Highlighted research conducted by Age UK in 2019 which showed that the number of older people with some level of unmet need stood at 1.5 million, likely to have increased due to the pandemic.
- Stressed that Members had a responsibility to residents to renew the call for a sustainable funding solution, ensuring that vulnerable residents are not being left behind.

Bernie Muir moved an amendment which had been published in the supplementary agenda (12 July 2021), which was formally seconded by Luke Bennett.

The amendment was as follows (with additional words in bold/underlined and deletions crossed through):

**This Council notes that:**

In Boris Johnson's first speech as Prime Minister in July 2019, he **highlighted the importance of reforming the** ~~promised to fix the crisis in~~ social care **system** once and for all "with a clear plan we have prepared to give every older person the dignity and security they deserve."

~~**This Council also notes that:**~~

~~In October 2019 it unanimously passed a motion proposed by Lib Democrat Members that spoke to the situation in Surrey:~~

~~"With concern that, owing to Government policy, Surrey residents who pay for their own elderly care significantly subsidise the residents who rely on County to pay for their care. This is a result of an unjust and inequitable funding regime which is itself a result of inadequate government funding."~~

~~With the corresponding resolution (1.):~~

~~"This council accordingly calls on the government to bring forward urgently a sustainable solution so that councils can restore equity and enable a sustainable market for social care provision in Surrey and across the country."~~

**This Council further notes that:**

~~In the absence of the promised plan Leaders of social care organisations from across the country recently wrote to the Prime minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to urge the Government to act now on reform of England's social care system. and publish its proposals before the summer recess.~~ **That is why this Government has responded to the need for a modern health and care system through its Health and Care Bill. This Bill builds on proposals to bring health and care services closer together to build back better and improve care for our communities.**

**This Council resolves to:**

- ~~I. Express its disappointment that despite repeated promises, no proposals have as yet been brought forward; and~~
- ~~II. To robustly renew its call for a sustainable solution to the funding of adult social care and write to the Government and Surrey's Members of Parliament urging them to honour their promise to urgently tackle this long-~~

~~term crisis, which leaves many vulnerable residents without the support they need whilst others face catastrophic costs.~~

- I. **Continue to use formal channels, by working with the Local Government Association, County Councils Network, our Surrey MPs and Government Ministers to find a long-term, sustainable solution to social care, in turn tackling health inequality and ensuring no-one is left behind.**
- II. **Support the Government's commitment to working with councils and the social care sector to enhance existing assurance frameworks that support the drive to improve the health outcomes and experiences of residents.**
- III. **Work closely with Surrey Heartland and Frimley ICS to implement the Health and Care Bill to deliver a truly integrated approach to health and social care.**

Bernie Muir spoke to her amendment, making the following points:

- Noted general agreement on the need for reforms in adult social care.
- That the Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP in his first speech as Prime Minister in July 2019 noted the need to fix the crisis “once and for all”, the 2019 Conservative Party manifesto stated that it would seek a cross-party consensus to bring forward proposals for reform - delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic - re-stated in the Queen’s Speech in May.
- The Council was using formal channels, working with the Local Government Association (LGA), the CCN, Surrey’s MPs and Government ministers to find a long-term sustainable solution to adult social care.
- That it was clear that the demand for adult social care was rapidly increasing, noting the 6% increase since 2015/16.
- That in order to effectively deliver the required services it was key to: secure predictable sustainable long-term funding; acknowledge the exponential demand, take into account the demographic changes; recognise pressures that would further lead to increasing demand.
- That in addition to meeting future demand, policies were needed to address the pressures to recruit and retain the workforce, noting the need for the parity of esteem for care workers with NHS staff.
- Noted that the Government had expressed the commitment to enable local government to be equal partners in an integrated care system, noting the Council’s strong position to drive change through its partnership with Surrey Heartlands, the Transformation Programme and the effective work of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- That the aim was to tackle health inequality and focus on preventative healthcare in order to deliver for those who needed support using innovative solutions to bring services into the community.
- Noted that the Council’s objectives were integrated into the Health and Care Bill, such as the NHS and local Government coming together to plan health and care services around patients’ needs.

- Noted that the main benefits of the Health and Care Bill was the removal of bureaucratic and transaction processes, freeing up the NHS to focus on what mattered to patients: preventative healthcare, supporting the ageing population, tackling health inequality, supporting the diverse needs of local populations and enhancing patients' safety.

The amendment was formally seconded by Luke Bennett, who reserved his right to speak.

Will Forster did not accept the amendment and he made the following comments:

- That the amendment watered down and re-wrote the original motion by removing: reference to the Prime Minister's promise to fix the social care crisis, reference to the previously passed motion on social care and reference made by the leaders of social care organisations in their letter asking for the Government's proposals to be published before the summer recess.
- That the Council needed to be strong willed in demanding the reforms from the Government, the amendment went contrary to that.

Three Members spoke on the amendment and made the following comments:

- Noted that in the two years since the last general election and eleven years of Conservative Party administration, past governments had failed to bring forward sensitive plans for adult social care reform.
- That since the Prime Minister's speech in July 2019, two million people had applied for support and had their requests refused.
- That the Covid-19 pandemic had highlighted that frontline carers were essential to a properly functioning society and economy yet two thirds did not earn a real living wage.
- Denounced the excuse by the mover of the amendment who suggested that the Covid-19 pandemic had been a distraction for the Government not to act, noting the passing of the Education Act 1944 during the Second World War.
- Stressed that a proper vision for adult social care across the country was needed that was based on need and was publicly funded, that empowered the users of adult social care as well as its workers many poorly paid, prioritised home first care and supported unpaid carers.
- Noted that the Health and Care Bill outlined a major top-down reorganisation in adult social care through the loss of local control and inclusion of measures making it easier to give contracts to the private sector - the amendment was a disservice to Surrey's residents.
- Echoed disappointment with the amendment highlighting the changes to the 'resolves to' section which removed the Council's expressing of its disappointment at the repeated promises and delays, replaced by writing to the Government and Surrey's MPs, and continued use of formal channels - ineffective over the last decade.
- That the amendment sought to re-write history through its removal of the previously passed motion on social care, which went contrary to the value of honesty.
- Noted caution in the use of language alleging dishonesty and the re-writing of history, as events had moved on since that motion was passed.

- That the Council's administration was aware of the need for a long-term sustainable solution for the funding of adult social care.
- Explained that the Health and Care Bill was part of the long-term funding solution as it integrated the health system and local government, noting the hard work in Surrey over the past three years to integrate Surrey Heartlands and Frimley Integrated Care Systems - with joint appointments and a joint vision.
- Stressed the importance of formal channels, he used his role as Leader of the Council each time he spoke with Surrey's MPs, as chairman of the CCN and at LGA meetings.
- Noted that there was no simple solution to the long-term funding of adult social care, he looked to future reform by the new Secretary of State for Health.
- The Leader provided notice that he would bring an original motion to the next Council meeting on what the Cabinet and partners across Surrey were doing concerning the Safer Streets Fund.

Luke Bennett, the seconder of the amendment, made no comments.

The Chair asked Bernie Muir, as proposer of the amendment to conclude the debate, she made no further comments.

The amendment was put to the vote with 37 Members voting For, 25 voting Against and 1 Abstention.

Therefore the amendment was carried and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put to the vote with 37 Members voting For, 13 voting Against and 16 Abstentions.

Therefore it was **RESOLVED** that:

**This Council notes that:**

In Boris Johnson's first speech as Prime Minister in July 2019, he highlighted the importance of reforming the social care system once and for all "with a clear plan we have prepared to give every older person the dignity and security they deserve."

**This Council further notes that:**

Leaders of social care organisations from across the country recently wrote to the Prime minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to urge the Government to act now on reform of England's social care system. That is why this Government has responded to the need for a modern health and care system through its Health and Care Bill. This Bill builds on proposals to bring health and care services closer together to build back better and improve care for our communities.

**This Council resolves to:**

- I. Continue to use formal channels, by working with the Local Government Association, County Councils Network, our Surrey MPs and Government Ministers to find a long-term, sustainable solution to social care, in turn tackling health inequality and ensuring no-one is left behind.
- II. Support the Government's commitment to working with councils and the social care sector to enhance existing assurance frameworks that support the drive to improve the health outcomes and experiences of residents.
- III. Work closely with Surrey Heartland and Frimley ICS to implement the Health and Care Bill to deliver a truly integrated approach to health and social care.

## **51/21 REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES – REMOTE MEETING [Item 9]**

The Leader introduced the report:

- Which set out the review of the recommendations and removal of delegations put in place in respect of remote meetings as agreed by Council on 16 March 2021.
- Noted that the Government was consulting on local authority remote and hybrid meetings and the Council would await the outcome, in the meantime it was appropriate that the Council reverted back to the previous delegations set out in its Constitution in which all formal committees requiring decisions would take place in public.
- Noted that since 7 May 2021 the officer delegated decisions had only been used once for the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board - Informal in June.
- Flagged that the special dispensation for all Members concerning the non-attendance of Council meetings for a six-month period in light of Covid-19, would be reviewed by the Council on 12 October 2021.

Members made the following comments:

- Thanked the Leader for listening to the concerns made by the Residents' Association and Independents Group regarding the measures.
- Highlighted that the reversal of the Constitutional changes did not stop the practice of removing decision-making items from formal committee meeting agendas and holding virtual meetings excluding the public from seeing key information; he sought reassurance that such a practice would not continue.
- Noted that millions of fellow individuals aged under thirty were still awaiting their second Covid-19 vaccination and were unable to be fully vaccinated despite having to attend in person committees or working at a Council office.
- Welcomed the extension of the special dispensation for the non-attendance at Council meetings until October, asking whether the Leader would consider making a further provision so that any Members who felt unable for safety or health reasons to attend meetings during that time could still participate virtually even if not able to vote.
- Queried what Covid-19 related risk assessment or rules would be in place for in person meetings after the national restrictions were to be lifted on 19 July 2021.

In response the Leader explained that all formal committee meetings held in public previously would continue to be held in public and that where the technology allowed a hybrid option would be possible for Members to join remotely although they would not be allowed to vote. That the Public Health team (SCC) would issue further guidance on Covid-19 risk assessments in due course.

**RESOLVED:**

That Council agreed:

1. To redefine the definition within the Council's Constitution to define Cabinet as a formal meeting of Cabinet.
2. To remove the delegation for all non-executive decision making to be delegated to the Proper Officer in consultation with the relevant committee chairman and for any non-executive decision making to be undertaken in line with the Council's Scheme of Delegation.
3. To review the dispensation for non-attendance at meetings in relation to the six-month rule as set out in section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 at 12 October Council meeting.
4. To note that the Council has provided a full response to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's call for evidence in relation to the future of remote local authority meetings.

**52/21 CHANGES TO CABINET PORTFOLIOS AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES [Item 10]**

The Leader introduced the recommendations, highlighting the appointment of Luke Bennett as the new Cabinet Member for Health. He noted the importance of the focus on health in light of the Health and Care Bill to be granted royal assent next year, the Bill would re-structure the health and social care system and would introduce Integrated Care Boards and Integrated Care Partnerships.

**RESOLVED:**

1. Council noted Luke Bennett's appointment by the Leader as the Cabinet Member for Health on 29 June 2021.
2. That as a result of the above, appointments were made to the Resources and Performance Select Committee, the Planning and Regulatory Committee and the Surrey-Wide Commissioning Committees in Common for the remainder of the 2021/22 Council Year:
  - Rebecca Jennings-Evans was appointed to the Resources and Performance Select Committee.
  - Bernie Muir was appointed to the Planning and Regulatory Committee as a substitute.
  - Luke Bennett was appointed to the Surrey-Wide Commissioning Committees in Common in place of Tim Oliver.

3. Council delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary changes to the Terms of Reference for the Surrey-Wide Commissioning Committees in Common and to update the Constitution accordingly.
4. Council noted the following changes to the committee memberships for the remainder of the 2021/22 Council Year:

#### **CHILDREN, FAMILIES, LIFELONG LEARNING AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE**

Andy Lynch in place of Lesley Steeds.

#### **RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE**

Lesley Steeds in place of Andy Lynch.

#### **SURREY PENSION FUND COMMITTEE**

Mark Sugden in place of John O'Reilly.

#### **JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE SURREY HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (“SURREY HILLS BOARD”)**

Marisa Heath in place of Denise Turner-Stewart.

### **53/21 REPORT OF THE CABINET [Item 11]**

The Leader presented the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 1 June 2021 and 29 June 2021.

#### **Recommendations on Policy Framework Documents:**

##### **29 June 2021:**

- A. Variation to Admission Arrangements for Surrey's Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for September 2021 and September 2022

#### **Reports for Information/Discussion:**

##### **1 June 2021:**

- B. Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Public Report Regarding the End of Life Care Provided by a Commissioned Care Home
- C. Pendell Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) Camp, Merstham

##### **29 June 2021:**

- D. Surrey County Council Strategy and Delivery – 2021 and Beyond
- E. Improving Mental Health Outcomes, Experiences and Services in Surrey
- F. Supported Independent Living - Feasibility Study
- G. Quarterly Report on Decisions Taken Under Special Urgency Arrangements: 25 May 2021 - 13 July 2021

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Council approved the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools and co-ordinated schemes (as set out in the Cabinet paper from 29 June 2021):  
That, subject to the new School Admissions Code coming into force on 1 September, the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2021 and 2022 are varied to give top priority for children adopted from state care outside England, alongside looked after children and other previously looked after children.
2. That Council noted that there had been one urgent decision in the last two months.
3. That the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 1 June 2021 and 29 June 2021 be adopted.

**54/21 MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS [Item 12]**

One notification of a question on the minutes had been received, Jonathan Essex submitted an amendment to change the wording on item 128/21: Surrey's Greener Futures Climate Change Delivery Plan (CCDP), page 64/487 which had been agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet on 29 June 2021 would be updated:

Item 128/21, page 64/487: 'The delay to the plan was ~~welcomed~~ **noted**'.

Chair's concluding remarks:

The Chair thanked Members for their patience and cooperation, welcomed the interesting debates held, urged all to take a break over the summer and hoped that the October meeting of the Council would be held in the new Council Chamber.

[Meeting ended at: 13.28 pm]

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**Chair**

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## Leader's Statement – County Council, 13 July 2021

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Madam Chair, Members,

As we meet this morning we can look forward to a return to normality with the imminent removal of legal restrictions on the way we go about our lives, the way we socialise, work, and interact with each other, following 16 months of living through a global pandemic.

However, we must remember that July 19<sup>th</sup> will not signal the end to public health interventions in dealing with COVID-19; it is legislation being replaced by guidance.

The pandemic is not over, we must remain vigilant and we must remain considerate and responsible in keeping the virus at bay.

Our Public Health team will continue to work tirelessly, monitoring data, on test and trace, guiding schools and businesses and giving expert advice as we move into the next phase of dealing with COVID.

We will continue to be transparent with residents and give the best advice possible to keep Surrey safe.

Madam Chair, it seems an age ago since we gathered in County Hall in Kingston for the final time, in February 2020 - the last time I delivered a Leader's speech in person.

These past 16 months have been the most challenging many of us have faced, both personally and professionally, yet we can reflect with great pride on what we have collectively achieved.

The staff of this organisation have, without question, gone above and beyond to support the people of Surrey, to provide guidance, information, food, equipment, a friendly chat, or words of advice to our residents, many who have needed us more than ever before.

We have worked incredibly well with partners throughout COVID too, something that we are determined to build on and take forward.

Looking ahead, we have a great responsibility to lead Surrey through the immediate COVID recovery towards a buoyant, positive, and successful future.

Let us be in no doubt however Madam Chair, that we have huge challenges ahead.

The impact of the pandemic, the UK's economy, and the political agenda nationally will undoubtedly have a substantial impact on local government.

But we have worked tirelessly to get ourselves in the best possible position as an organisation to tackle those challenges, and indeed take opportunities that may be on the horizon too.

While COVID has been at the forefront of our minds, we have not stopped in our core mission and in delivering our strategic objectives for the council:

- Delivering a Greener Future
- Growing a strong and sustainable Local Economy
- Enabling Communities

- and Tackling Health Inequalities

Our transformation programme has continued at pace, always striving to be better.

Ofsted have paid us another visit and again have commended the progress being made in Children's Services.

Our Chief Executive and her team have delivered safe County-wide elections.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services have also just completed a full inspection of Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and initial feedback noted the progress made and raised no issues of concern. We wait patiently and indeed optimistically for their full report as we take forward our Making Surrey Safer Plan.

We again set a balanced budget without drawing on reserves and reiterated our ambitious capital investment plan to make Surrey fit for the future.

Your Fund Surrey has been launched, with hundreds of ideas and comments submitted. We're already seeing some fantastic community projects reach the final stages to access funding, making a huge difference to communities across Surrey.

We've moved forward with the building of hundreds more Supported Living and Extra Care homes, to keep people living independently for longer and modernising Adult Social Care.

Just last week we launched a Surrey-wide, long-running consultation on our Surrey Transport Plan that aims to revolutionise the way we travel in Surrey. It is, rightly, a bold and transformative plan:

- increasing walking and cycling routes to encourage people out of their cars

- providing more charging points and parking for electric vehicles
- more bus services
- charging for transport use
- introducing car clubs

And addressing fundamental issues that contribute to people travelling around and through the county. Things like improving internet connections for home-working, reducing the need to travel, or redesigning neighbourhoods for better access to local services within walking and cycling distance.

We know this is going to be hard, we will undoubtedly face some opposition, but we all have a responsibility to change our behaviour in order to reduce the 46% of carbon emissions currently generated by transport in Surrey.

We know we have a huge role to play, to make this behaviour change as easy as possible. But this is on all of us.

Let's create better places, together.

This is all part of our Climate Change Strategy, to deliver a Greener Future for Surrey and tackle the Climate Emergency.

Madam Chair, we are absolutely serious about this.

It is one of our four overriding Strategic Objectives, and fundamental to everything we do to make Surrey a place where people can live happy and healthy lives long into the future.

We have set out how we can deliver this Greener Future and are consulting with partners over the summer on a Delivery Plan. We cannot do this alone. All of our

partners in local government and beyond must play their part in delivering that plan which I very much hope will a delivery plan we can all get behind.

We should acknowledge however that work to deliver this mission – to reduce our carbon emissions to net zero, as a council by 2030 and as a county by 2050 – is already well underway.

It is already embedded in all that we do.

- Our Tree planting strategy
- The move to a more eco-friendly HQ here at Woodhatch
- The aforementioned Surrey Transport Plan
- Our Local Cycling and Walking plans
- Education of our young people
- Council vehicles turning electric, and our EV infrastructure roll out
- Replacement of our streetlights with LEDs
- The Surrey Solar scheme, with over 7,000 residents already signed up
- The River Thames Scheme approval
- Our work in Farnham around traffic and air quality
- Our investment in electric buses

But these things are just the start.

Our plan is comprehensive, ambitious, and achievable. It needs to be.

But to be able to achieve it, we must all play our part.

Residents and communities must stand up too, and together we must take collective responsibility for the future of the world we live in.

As a County Council we are committed to working closer with residents, as a partner in communities to help them thrive, and to collectively deliver a brighter, stronger future for Surrey.

Thriving communities is what we should all be aiming to be part of, and support.

They are essential to meeting future challenges, whether that's delivering a Greener Future, or tackling health inequalities.

Strong communities help drive a sustainable local economy and a strong local economy improves health outcomes.

Compassionate and connected communities help people live independently for longer.

Ultimately, local networks of support help to improve quality of life and life expectancy.

For too long the County Council has been accused of being remote from our residents, not only because we were based out of county in Kingston, but because we're responsible for a substantial and diverse geographic area and 1.2m residents.

As we all know as Members, our communities and residents are not all affluent and middle class – across the county our local communities have very different demographics, different challenges, and different requirements that they need to thrive.

We are shifting our culture, as an organisation, to understand these different local places better, and to be an active partner.

We are working alongside communities, who are invested in their localities, who know the challenges and see the opportunities.

We want to help build on the strong community action that is already happening, and actively encourage more residents to join up and join in.

In the coming weeks you may see and hear more about the 'Make It Happen' campaign, which aims to engage our residents.

It is designed to boost participation from residents – to demonstrate, perhaps to people who might not usually get involved, that they have a say, a stake in their local area, and that they can 'Make It Happen'.

Members – we already play a huge role in connecting people in our communities, in building those networks. But I know our communities will welcome hearing that this council continues to be committed to engaging and playing an active part, committed to Making It Happen, together.

This ambition is fundamental to Surrey's post-pandemic recovery.

Surrey Local Resilience Forum's *Building Forward Better* report will outline how we, and partner organisations should build on, and adapt to, the long-term changes brought about by COVID and that be crucial to guiding us as an organisation.

But this is a challenge for everyone in this county, together.

Our entire County Council workforce, our partners, our residents, our businesses, and crucially Members, all of us as elected representatives, must work collaboratively to shape a new Surrey. We owe that to our residents.

I remain determined that no one is left behind in Surrey, and that is even more important as we deal with the long-lasting impact of COVID.

A place that builds on all our natural assets, our dynamic people, and our innovative spirit, to provide more opportunities and a brighter future for everyone. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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## OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEMBER MEETINGS

#### **KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

County Council is asked to review and approve the proposed arrangements for member meetings for the remainder of the Council Year 2021/22, following the relaxation of the public health restrictions and the expiry of the Remote Meeting Regulations 2020.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

1. In line with the Remote Meeting Regulations set by Government at the start of the pandemic, from April 2020 to May 2021 all formal committee meetings were held remotely. At its meeting in March 2021, Council agreed that informal member meetings should continue to be held virtually in as there was no legal requirement for them to take place at a physical venue.
2. The regulations allowing meetings to take place virtually lapsed at the start of May 2021. Since that time, formal decision-making committee meetings have been held in person at Woodhatch Pace and all meetings were run in line with the national public health restrictions that were in place until 19 July 2021.
3. Public attendance at meetings has been limited, with those wishing to attend being asked to contact Democratic Services in advance of a meeting taking place. Alternatively, they have been given the option to watch the webcast of the meeting or join remotely should they have a question or petition to present. As has been the case through the pandemic, all formal meetings have been webcast to maintain openness and ensure the accessibility of meetings to residents.
4. Government social distancing requirements were mostly removed from 19 July but specific measures to ensure meetings operate safely remains in place which has been drawn up in consultation with Public Health colleagues.

## Formal meeting arrangements

5. In line with the Local Government Act 1972, all committees of the council require members appointed to the committee to attend meetings in person when meeting formally in order for their attendance to be formally count and to allow them to vote on matters being considered at the meeting. Substitute rules are in place for all committees, apart from Cabinet. In order to allow members that are unable to attend in person to send a representative to the meeting on their behalf.
6. The Council Chamber at Woodhatch Place will continue to be used for the majority of formal meetings as this is the safest venue in terms of the spacing of meeting participants and it has good ventilation.
7. Public attendance at meetings will continue to be limited with those wishing to attend in person being asked to contact Democratic Services in advance in order to help manage numbers. This will be reviewed at future meetings and can be revised as circumstances change.
8. It is proposed that hybrid technology that can be used to enable the remote attendance of those who are not committee members but who are due to attend to provide evidence, present information, or answer questions (councillors, officers and external witnesses) is continued to be used. For councillor involvement in formal meetings, Council is asked to approve the following approach in principle:
  - **County Council:** members should attend in person in order to participate in the meeting. However, if for health reasons, a member unable to attend in person, they may speak at the meeting with the agreement of the Chair however, they will not be able to vote.
  - **Cabinet:** Cabinet Members will be able to participate virtually in formal meetings, but where doing so they will not be able to vote. Non-Cabinet Members attending these meetings (regulatory and select committee chairmen, opposition party leaders and other members) and officers will be able to participate virtually.
  - **Non-executive decision-making committees** (e.g. Audit & Governance, Pensions, Planning and Regulatory, People, Performance and Development): committee members may only lawfully take part in debates and decisions if physically present. Other members and officers wishing to attend to address the committee would be able to do so virtually where technology at the meeting venue allows.
  - **Select Committees** committee members should attend in person in order to participate in the meeting. Other members including Cabinet Members, officers and external witnesses will be able to participate virtually.

9. The Cabinet operates under executive arrangements which enables it to function with only three members attending in person and it is not subject to proportionality rules. Therefore, if a Cabinet Member does not attend a meeting in person due to health reasons and decides to attend remotely, although their attendance at the meeting does not formally count and they are unable to vote, the Leader is able to decide whether to allow them to participate in the debate.
10. For all other committees, if a committee member is unable to attend in person and requests to attend remotely due to health reasons, their attendance will not be formally recorded, and they will be deemed to be attending as a non-committee member. They will then be able to speak at the meeting as a non-committee member (with the agreement of the Chair of the committee) to make a statement, however will not be able to participate in the debate or vote on any matters discussed.
11. Members of the public that have submitted a petition or question to a committee meeting will have the option of attending in person or virtually where technology at the meeting venue allows.

#### **Six-month rule for attendance at meetings**

12. Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that all councillors must attend a committee meeting of the council within a six-month period unless the failure was due to a reason approved by the local authority.
13. In March 2021, Council resolved that special dispensation be granted to all members for any non-attendance at meetings of the Council until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. Following discussions with Group Leaders' it is proposed that this dispensation is not extended beyond 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. It is proposed that all councillor attendance records are reset from 31<sup>st</sup> October.

#### **Special dispensation on medical grounds – Councillor Alison Griffiths**

14. As set out in paragraph 3.1 under section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, a Member ceases to hold that office if he/she has not attended a meeting for a period of six consecutive months, unless the failure to attend is due to a reason approved by the authority during that six months.
15. Councillor Alison Griffiths has unfortunately not been able to attend any formal meetings of the authority from the start of the Council term in May 2021 while she receives treatment for a serious health condition.
16. For that reason, the County Council is requested to agree that she may continue to be absent from meetings while maintaining membership of the Council during her period of ill health. This decision will be reviewed at the County Council AGM in May 2022.

## Ongoing review of meeting arrangements

17. Should there be any change to the public health guidance or new legislation issued in relation to the Council's ability to hold remote meetings then the principles set out in this report will be reviewed and any new legislation incorporated into council business processes.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>
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1. To agree the arrangements for committee meetings including remote participation as set out in the report for the remainder of the council year 2021/22.
2. In relation to the six-month rule for meeting attendance;
  - a. To agree that the blanket dispensation for attendance at formal committee meetings for all members is not extended beyond 31 October and that councillor attendance records are reset from this date.
  - b. To agree that Councillor Alison Griffiths may continue to be absent from meetings until May 2022 by reason of ill health and that the Council looks forward to welcoming her back in due course.
3. To authorise the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chairman of the Council and group leaders to incorporate any legislative changes issued by Government into council business processes.

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**Lead/Contact Officers:**

Paul Evans, Director of Law and Governance  
[paul.evans@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:paul.evans@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Sources/background papers:**

Constitution of the Council  
Public Health guidance

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County Council Meeting – 12 October 2021

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

David Lewis (Chairman)  
Victor Lewanski (Vice Chairman)  
Stephen Cooksey  
Rebecca Paul  
Joanne Sexton  
Richard Tear

### Updated Risk Management Strategy

1. On 20 September 2021, the Audit and Governance Committee considered an updated Risk Management Strategy for approval, enclosed. This was a further step at having a standardised risk management approach and a more effective risk system.
2. The Risk Management Strategy provides the framework for how risk management is undertaken in the Council. It is an important document, including from a governance perspective, showing how risk management supports the successful delivery of the Council's objectives. The document is very similar to the risk strategies adopted by many other councils and has a focus on the key components of 'identify, assess, treat, monitor and report.'
3. The *Risk Management Strategy* is intended to act as a useful guide both for those within the Council who are looking at support in understanding the steps to managing risks, but also to partners who would like to understand how risk management operates within Surrey County Council.
4. The Committee agreed that the risk strategy was reviewed and approved by the Audit & Governance Committee every year.

### Recommendation

To note that the Audit and Governance Committee have agreed the enclosed Risk Management Strategy (Annex 1) and it is **RECOMMENDED** the County Council agree for the Constitution to be updated.

**Paul Evans**  
**Director of Law and Governance**  
**20 September 2021**

**David Lewis (Cobham)**  
**Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee**  
**20 September 2021**

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# Risk Management Strategy

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# 1 Introduction

A risk is defined as an uncertain event which, should it occur, will influence the achievement of objectives. This Risk Management Strategy outlines the approach used by Surrey County Council in managing risk. A framework is detailed showing the process for undertaking risk identification, assessment, treatment, monitoring and reporting.

By operating a robust risk management process the following benefits can be derived:

- ▶ **Strengthen accountability** – through clear and robust risk governance including risk roles and responsibilities, risk ownership, risk monitoring, escalation of risks and oversight of the risk management process
- ▶ **Make best use of resources** – through relevant and proportionate treatment of risks, taking account of the level of risk
- ▶ **Build stakeholder trust** – by demonstrating that significant risks are consistently identified, assessed, managed, and monitored at the appropriate level across Surrey County Council
- ▶ **Avoid surprises** – providing a consistent approach to identify, understand, and assess risks
- ▶ **Give confidence** – that appropriate actions are being taken to manage risks in a timely manner
- ▶ **Make informed decisions** – with reliable information on risks

The aim of Surrey County Council is to continuously improve its approach to risk management, prompted by new ideas and best practice. In particular, this strategy has drawn on guidance from:

- The Orange Book, Management of Risk: Principles and Concepts (*HM Government, 2020*)
- Fundamentals of Risk Management (*The Institute of Risk Management 2018*)
- Management of Risk: *Guide for Practitioners* (*OGC, 2010*)

This Risk Management Strategy will be reviewed annually by the Risk Manager and brought to the Audit and Governance Committee for review and approval.

## 2 Roles & Responsibilities

A number of key roles have been defined in supporting this risk management process:

**Risk Owner:** To manage any risks assigned and to provide up-to-date, accurate information about the risk

- *Work to develop suitable controls, actions and target completion dates*
- *Review risk including progress against plan, effectiveness of actions taken and any other factors that have impacted the risk*
- *Provide up-to date-risk information including any significant changes to risk levels and progress against treatment plans, to support timely and accurate risk reporting*

**Directorate Lead / Service Lead:** To coordinate the risk management process across their respective Directorate / Service

- *Manage the implementation of the risk management process across the Directorate or Service*
- *Monitor risk with Risk Owners and ensure the Directorate/Service risk register is updated*
- *Escalate or downgrade risks as appropriate*

**Corporate Leadership Team:** To support the effective implementation of risk management in the organisation

- *Promote a risk management culture*
- *Review the organisations top risks and ensure suitable mitigations are in place*

**Audit & Governance Committee:** To ensure that there are adequate risk management processes and activities taking place to protect the viability of the organisation

- *Approve the Risk Management Strategy*
- *Review the top risks for the organisation*
- *Consider recommendations for improvements to the overall management of risk*

**Risk Manager:** To ensure risk management is consistently applied across the Council

- *Manage the implementation of the Risk Management Strategy (and update as needed)*
- *Provide support and guidance on risk management to the organisation*
- *Maintain the Corporate Risk Register and ensure Directorate/Service risk registers are maintained*

## 3 Risk Management Approach

### (i) The Risk Process

In order to manage risk, Surrey County Council needs to first know what risks it faces and then how best to deal with them. To achieve this, a risk process is used (as shown in Fig 1.) The process highlights each of the risk stages, namely: identify, assess, treat, monitor and report.

More information on the activities undertaken at each stage of the risk process are detailed in the forthcoming chapters of this document.

**Fig 1 - The Risk Management Process**

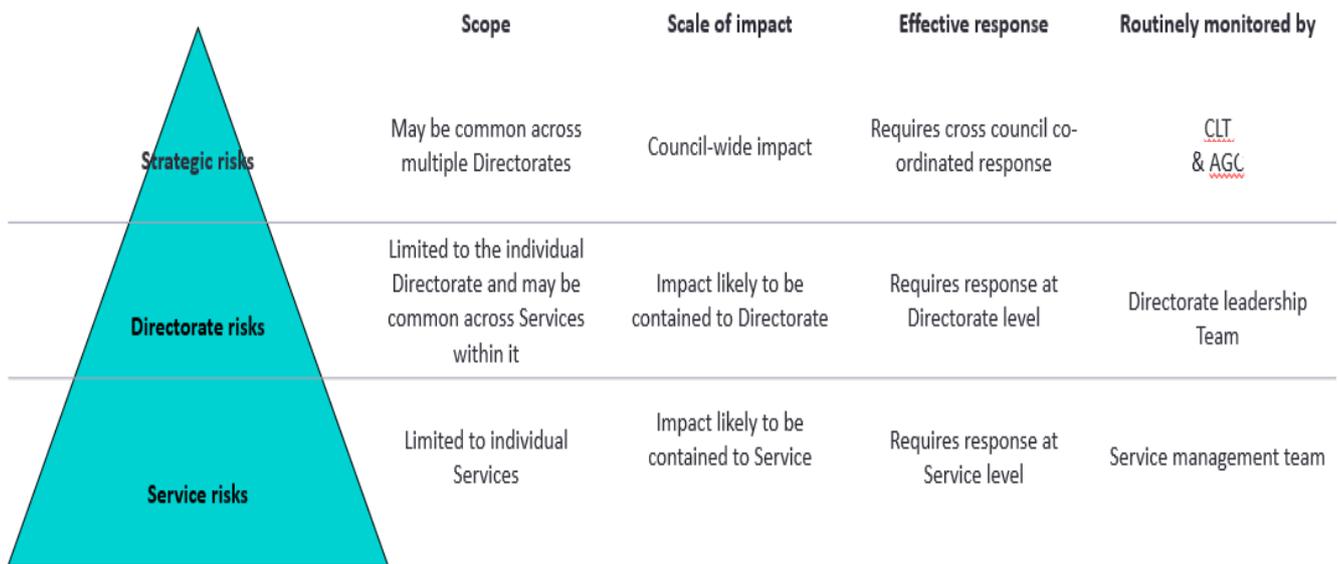


### (ii) Risk Hierarchy

The primary method for prioritising risks in Surrey County Council is classifying the risk as either a **Strategic (Corporate)**, **Directorate** or **Service** level risk. Hence, this hierarchy informs the level in the organisation at which the risk is routinely managed and monitored.

Typically, the level of a risk will depend on the scope, scale of potential impact and nature of the response required to manage the risk. Examples of the types of attributes commonly associated with the 3 hierarchy levels are shown in Fig 2. Regardless of level assigned, any risk may be escalated for review or intervention if required (by the Risk Owner or via the Risk Manager).

**Fig 2 – The Risk Hierarchy**



Once the hierarchy is decided it is then possible to assign the risk to the correct risk register.

**(iii) Risk Registers**

Risk registers run alongside the risk management process and are used as the key tool to capture risk information in a structured and consistent way. The following risk registers are used within Surrey County Council:

Type of Risk	Risk Register Used	Owner of Risk Register
Strategic	Corporate Risk Register	Risk Manager
Directorate	Specific Risk Register for that Directorate	Head of Directorate
Service	Specific Risk Register for that Service	Head of Service

The format of the risk register used in Surrey County Council is shown in Annex A along with an explanation of the information required to populate. The focus of the risk register is to detail what the cause(s) and effect(s) of the risk are, the likelihood and impact, and the controls and mitigations. To help understand what risk information needs to be captured at each stage of the risk process a summary is shown at the end of each of the following Chapters - see 'Risk Register updated'.

The frequency of reviewing and updating risk registers will depend on a number of factors such as the threat to the organisations objectives and the volatility of the risk i.e. the rate of change. It is recommended that risks are reviewed at least monthly (depending on the nature of the risk) **but as a minimum all risk should be reviewed at least quarterly.**

## 4 Risk Identification

Risk identification is the first step of the risk process journey. Risks can be identified in a number of ways - from a person spotting a risk while doing their job to a team during a workshop.

At this stage the intention is to describe the risk with a focus on:

The **risk event** – a summary explaining what may or may not occur

The **cause(s)** – those factors that will lead to the risk event occurring

The **effect(s) / consequence(s)** – the likely impact on activities and outcomes if the risk event does occur

By methodically working through the risk event and identifying the cause(s) and effect(s) it encourages a better understanding of the risk and a more structured definition of the risk. It is not always easy to describe risks, however the key point is that everyone understands what is meant by the risk and the description is sufficient to ensure an effective understanding of the risk moving forwards.

Some examples of causes of risk are:

- Failure to.....
- Loss of.....
- Insufficient.....
- Non-compliance with....
- Reduction in.....
- Conflict between.....
- Inability to.....
- Reliance on.....
- Disruption to.....
- Inadequate.....
- Increase in.....
- Delay in.....

The effects or consequences of risks can be numerous, and some examples are:

- Service disruption
- Impaired performance
- Management distraction
- Breach of contract
- Fines and penalties
- Loss of assets
- Financial cost
- Damaged reputation
- Health and Safety failings

### ***Risk Register Updated:***

*At the end of this step the risk register should be populated with the:*

- *Risk Title (the risk event)*
- *Cause*
- *Effect*
- *An initial Risk Owner – the person best placed to manage the risk*
- *Unique ID (provided by the Risk Manager)*

# 5 Risk Assessment

Risk assessment categorises risks according to **likelihood** of occurrence and **impact** on the organisation using a scoring-based system.

The **likelihood** is an estimate of the probability that the risk will occur. It takes into account any existing controls currently in place to help mitigate the risk from occurring. For example, applying the latest software patches to IT equipment is a control measure to reduce the chances of having computer viruses.

Shown below the likelihood is the current best assessment of the risk on a scale of 1-5.

**Fig 3 - Likelihood criteria for risks**

Level	Likelihood	Odds
1	Rare	<10%
2	Unlikely	10% to 29%
3	Possible	30% to 69%
4	Likely	70% to 90%
5	Very Likely	>90%

*NOTE : It is important to understand that the goal is not to have the most accurate scoring but ensure that there is a prioritisation of risks. This allows for the allocation of resources focused on managing the most significant risks.*

The **impact** is the negative effect that the risk could have on the organisation. Any existing controls to help manage the impact of the risk should be taken into account when undertaking the scoring assessment. For example, a business continuity plan would not change the likelihood of a risk occurring but is designed to reduce the impact.

The scoring is on a scale of 1-5 and is the best assessment based on the known risk information. To aid scoring for the Risk Owner, an impact criteria matrix is used, as shown in Fig 4. The criteria are only a guide for the Risk Owner to get a better 'feel' for the risks relative impact and thereby providing a consistent level of evaluation and ranking of risk across the organisation. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list as there are a multitude of impact areas such as governance, environment etc.

**Fig 4 - Impact criteria for risks**

IMPACT					
Level	Impact	Financial (revenue)	Residents	Reputational	Performance
1	Minimal	<£100k	Minimal impact on a small proportion of the population	Has no negative impact on reputation and no media interest	Minimal impact on achievement of one or more SCC priority objectives
2	Minor	£100K to £1m	Minor impact on a small proportion of the population	Minor damages in a limited area. May have localised, low level negative impact on reputation and generates low level of complaints	Minor impact on achievement of one or more SCC priority objectives
3	Moderate	£1m-£2.5m	Moderate impact on a large (or particularly vulnerable group) proportion of the population	Moderate damages but widespread. Significant localised low level negative impact on the organisations reputation which generates limited complaints.	Moderate impact on achievement of one or more SCC priority objectives
4	Major	>£2.5m to £10m	Major impact on a large (or particularly vulnerable group) proportion of population	Major damage to the reputation of the organisation. Generates significant number of complaints and likely loss of public confidence. Unwanted local or possibly national media attention.	Major impact on achievement of one or more SCC priority objectives
5	Severe	>£10m	Serious long term impact on a large (or particularly vulnerable group) proportion of population	Serious damage to the reputation of the organisation. Large number of complaints. National media coverage. Possible government intervention.	Serious long term impact on achievement of one or more SCC priority objectives

Once the risk likelihood score and impact score have been determined, they combine to provide an overall risk score (by multiplying the impact by the likelihood). This allows for a relative ranking of risks and a better focus on prioritising the most significant risks (with resources allocated accordingly).

***Risk Register Updated:***

*At the end of this step the risk register should be populated with the:*

- *Existing management controls to reduce the likelihood or impact of the risk*
- *Likelihood score*
- *Impact score*
- *Overall Risk Score (likelihood x impact)*

## 6 Risk Treatment

Risk treatment involves looking at the options to help mitigate the risk and taking the most appropriate actions. Very often the first idea (or option) is the most expensive and it is important to consider alternatives. The intention is to consider the cost-benefits of each option and then select the most appropriate to either reduce the likelihood of occurrence or the impact.

There are essentially 4 main treatment option, shown below in Fig 4:

**Fig 5 - Risk Management treatment options**

Activity / Option		Mitigation
Terminate	Stop what is being done.	The specific actions to be taken to control the risk
Treat	Reduce the likelihood or impact of the risk occurring.	
Transfer	Pass to another service best placed to deal with mitigations but ownership of the risk still lies with the original service. <i>One example would be insurance.</i>	The reasons for the transfer and the name of the service provider that the risk is being transferred to.
Tolerate	Do nothing because the cost outweighs the benefits and/or an element of the risk is outside our control.	The specific reasons / rationale for tolerating the risk.

NOTE: When considering the options, more than one mitigation may be appropriate.

***Risk Register Updated:***

*At the end of this step the risk register should be populated with the:*

- *Planned Enhancements to Controls (Actions) – treatment option(s) to further mitigate the risk*
- *Target Date(s) - The date when the action(s) should be completed by*

# 7 Risk Monitoring and Reporting

Effective risk monitoring and reporting is essential for informed decision-making and ensuring that the right actions are taken to drive improvement.

Risks must be regularly monitored to track progress, review the effectiveness of existing controls and consider any other factors that may impact the (level of) risk. The frequency of risk reviews will depend on the type of risks being assessed and the area that the risk sits within. For many parts of the organisation, the review of the risk register will be a standing item on the agenda. Nevertheless, all risks in a risk register must be reviewed every quarterly (at the very least) by the Risk Owner.

In addition to risk monitoring by the Risk Owner, a number of other stakeholders are likely to need to be kept informed on the risk status and contribute as required. Below shows some of the monitoring that takes place in the Council based on the risk hierarchy to support good risk management and good governance.

Risk Level / Hierarchy	Risk Monitoring
Strategic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Risk Register reviewed by Corporate Leadership Team (monthly standing agenda item). New risks added if appropriate or removed or downgraded to departmental level.</li> <li>• AGC consider the Corporate Risk Register (standing agenda item) to provide oversight</li> <li>• Deep dives undertaken on risks to provide wider perspective and understanding</li> </ul>
Directorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risks reviewed and updated by Head of Directorate and their direct reports.</li> <li>• Risks escalated (via Head of Directorate or via Risk Manager), removed or downgraded</li> </ul>
Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risks reviewed and updated by Head of Service and their direct reports</li> <li>• Risks escalated (via Head of Service or via Risk Manager) or removed</li> </ul>

Reports provide stakeholders a view on the current state of specific risks. Essentially there are 2 types of reporting:

- **Pre-defined reports** which are in the same format and provided to regular committees or other meetings. These will typically be undertaken by the overall responsible for that specific risk register.
- **Ad-hoc risk reports** on the status of risk. Typically, these will be spanning different parts of the organisation and are normally undertaken by the Risk Manager.

Below are some of the interested parts of Surrey County Council that require risk reports. While it is not a comprehensive list it does reflect that there are a large number of stakeholders that require risk information.

**Fig 6 – Overview of some of the stakeholders that require risk information**



It is **IMPORTANT** that anyone providing a risk report understands that there may be content which could be confidential. For example, the mitigations may cover commercially sensitive information or could be used to by-pass intended safeguards. Therefore, there must be a clear understanding of why the report is needed, what content requirement / risk information is needed, and who will have access to the report.

Typically a risk report as a minimum should show:

- The Title of the Risk
- The Owner of the Risk

Additional information may be made available such as:

- The cause(s) of the risk and the effect(s) on the organisation if it were to occur
- The current likelihood and impact if the risk
- The current control(s) in place to stop the risk from occurring
- The planned mitigation(s) to further reduce the likelihood or impact of the risk
- The due date(s) for completion of the mitigation

***Risk Register Updated:***

*At the end of this step the risk register should be reviewed and any changes / updates made*

# Risk register

# Annex A

A risk register with a worked example

Risk ID	Risk Title	Causes	Effect	Risk Owner	Likelihood (1-5)	Impact (1-5)	Overall Score	Key Existing Management Controls	Planned Enhancements to Controls (Actions)	Target Date
		<i>The reason(s) giving rise to the risk</i>	<i>What would happen if the risk occurred?</i>	<i>Name of person owning/managing the risk</i>	<i>see risk matrix to help scoring</i>	<i>see risk matrix to help scoring</i>	<i>Calculation (Likelihood x risk from occurring impact)</i>	<i>Controls that are already in place to stop the likelihood x risk from occurring</i>	<i>Actions planned to further mitigate the risk</i>	<i>Month &amp; Year</i>
	<i>Unique ref. A short summary explain the risk no. to be provided by Risk Manager</i>									
	Example : There is a risk of a deliberate and / or targeted cyber attack compromising IT systems and critical IT infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A deliberate attack by a cyber criminal or insider attack by a disgruntled employee or ex-employee.</li> <li>- State linked cyber crime attacks – a local government organisation can be viewed as less secure and a link into national government systems.</li> <li>- Lack of understanding amongst workforce of the potential cyber threats.</li> <li>- Failure of staff to adhere to the council's cyber security policies, procedures and guidance (behaviour and technical).</li> <li>- Legacy infrastructure and systems, that become increasingly vulnerable to exploitation as threats become more sophisticated and targeted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An immediate disruption to services if systems are unavailable.</li> <li>- Loss of access to individual resident's records, creating a risk of harm to their health and wellbeing.</li> <li>- Loss of access to operational data e.g. payroll data, payment data for suppliers, case files etc.</li> <li>- Financial cost of the immediate response e.g. rebuilding systems and restoring data.</li> <li>- Financial cost of longer term recovery e.g. potentially buying new infrastructure and strengthening resilience to cyber attacks.</li> <li>- Damage to reputation / loss of trust amongst the residents of Surrey, and partner organisations.</li> </ul>	A.Smith	1	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 - Protective systems: Firewalls, anti-virus, internet scanning in place</li> <li>- Inhouse security monitoring and penetration testing</li> <li>- Systems have latest patches applied</li> <li>- Cyber liability insurance in place</li> <li>- User access controls limits access to data</li> <li>- Business Continuity Plan in place to enable support of key services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- revised IT incident management policy being Oct. 2021 developed</li> <li>- internal audit planned and will undertake remedial work if identified</li> </ul>	Jan. 2022

<b>Area</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
Risk ID	All risks must have a unique risk reference
Risk Title	A short summary explaining the risk
Cause	The reason(s) giving rise to the risk
Effect	What would happen if the risk occurred?
Risk Owner	The person best placed to own and manage the risk
Likelihood	The probability rating of the risk occurring
Impact	The rating of the risk effect to the organisation
Overall Score	Rating calculated by Likelihood x Impact
Key Existing Management Controls	Measures currently in place to reduce the likelihood or impact of the risk occurring
Planned Enhancements to Controls (Actions)	Further actions planned to help mitigate the risk to an acceptable level
Target Due	The deadline by which the mitigating actions should be completed



## OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL

### APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

#### **KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

For Council to agree in principle the appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee, for recruitment and final approval by Council at its meeting on 14 December 2021.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Many local authorities include Independent Members on their audit committees (or similar) as this is seen as strengthening the internal control and governance of the authority. Independent Members with appropriate skills and experience can supplement those of elected Members and improve the effectiveness of such committees.

Guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) encourages local authorities to include independent members on their audit committees which is seen to bring positive benefits and be a mark of good practice.

Independent Persons are non-councillors who are suitably qualified with experience in the area of audit/governance and bring specialist knowledge and insight to the workings and deliberations of the committee to inter alia provide:

- An effective independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework.
- Independent review of the Council's financial and non-financial performance.
- Independent challenge to, and assurance over, the Council's internal control framework and wider governance processes.

The Independent Member would not have a vote in the same way as members of the committee and will be part of the committee in an advisory and consultative manner.

It is recommended that recruitment is carried out by a panel of three members including the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee further to public

advertisement and interviews supported by the Director of Law and Governance.

A draft role description, skills, competencies and person specification is attached as Appendix A for information.

It is proposed that any appointment should be for a period of four years, and that the Independent Member should serve for a maximum of two terms.

It is proposed that following the recruitment exercise, a report be presented to the Audit and Governance Committee at its November meeting to make recommendations to Council at the 14 December 2021 meeting, to agree the necessary changes to the Audit and Governance Committee's membership, and formally appoint the Independent member.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That:

1. Council agrees to the principle of appointing an Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee for a period of four years.
2. The recruitment of the Independent Member be led by a panel consisting of the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee and two opposition group members (appointed by Group Leaders), supported by the Director of Law and Governance.
3. Following the recruitment process, a report to formally appoint the Independent Member be presented to a future Council meeting.
4. Council agrees to delegate to the Director of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, authority to finalise the role description, skills, competencies and person specification attached as Appendix A.

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### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Any costs associated with the recruitment, selection, appointment and subsequent disbursements to any Independent Member will be contained from within existing revenue service budgets.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

A council's audit committee is established further to the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and its purpose is to give assurance to elected Members and the public about the governance, financial reporting and performance of the Council. The appointment of a non-voting Independent Member on the

committee will assist and promote good governance and scrutiny of the committee.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Subject to adequate vetting procedures and adherence to the Person Specification, this initiative should augment the Audit and Governance Committee's independence, provide additional expertise, and provide an opportunity for the community to play an enhanced role in the governance of the Council.

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**Contact Officer:**

Paul Evans, Director of Law and Governance

[Paul.evans@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.evans@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Sources/background papers:**

Arrangements at other local authorities

CIPFA Guidance

### Independent Person of the Audit and Governance Committee

#### Role Description

1. To engage fully in collective consideration of the issues considered by the Audit and Governance Committee, taking into account a full range of relevant factors, including legislation and supporting regulations, professional guidance (e.g. that issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)), and the advice of the Council's Section 151 Officer.
2. To participate fully in the discharge of all the committee's functions, as set out in the committee's terms of reference and the Constitution.
3. To promote the concept of proportionate, effective risk management and internal control throughout the organisation; and to champion the work of Internal Audit, External Audit and Risk Management.
4. To participate in periodic review of the overall effectiveness of the committee, and of its terms of reference.
5. To ensure that the minutes of Audit Committee meetings accurately record decisions taken.

#### Skills, Competencies, Person Specification

1. Demonstrates up to date knowledge, skills, and a depth of experience in the fields of audit, accounting, risk management and performance management. Experience gained working in a large, or public sector, organisation.
2. Knowledge of the Council's strategic priorities and objectives. Understanding of the complexity of issues surrounding audit and risk management in local government.
3. Works to high behavioural standards, demonstrating honesty, probity, and the highest level of integrity in conduct.
4. Operates consistently and without bias.
5. Is an effective role model; supports appropriate behaviours and challenges opinions and advice where appropriate, separating major issues from minor ones.
6. Contributes proactive, proportionate and independent thought, and also collaboration with officers to assist committee members.
7. Works sensitively with people inside and outside committee.
8. Listens to and balances advice.
9. Must not be a serving local government officer or councillor.
10. Must have no personal, legal or contractual relationship with Surrey County Council (including employees or Members or former staff), or any other relationship / activity which might represent a conflict of interest.
11. Able and willing to devote the necessary time to the role.

County Council Meeting – 12 October 2021

### **REPORT OF THE CABINET**

The Cabinet met on 20 July and 28 September 2021.

In accordance with the Constitution, Members can ask questions of the appropriate Cabinet Member, seek clarification or make a statement on any of these issues without giving notice.

The minutes containing the individual decisions for the meetings above have been included within the original agenda at Item 14. Any Cabinet responses to Committee reports are included in or appended to the minutes. If any Member wishes to raise a question or make a statement on any of the matters in the minutes, notice must be given to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the last working day before the County Council meeting (Monday 11 October 2021).

For members of the public all non-confidential reports are available on the web site ([www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)) or on request from Democratic Services.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS**

##### **A. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM BY SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

That Cabinet RECOMMENDS that the County Council:

1. Approves the changes to Spelthorne Joint Committee constitution, in relation to non-executive decision making, to reflect the change from a Cabinet to a Committee system within Spelthorne Borough Council (as set out in the Cabinet report from 28 September 2021).

##### **Reasons for decisions:**

To ensure that the Joint Committee constitution is fit for purpose.

#### **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

##### **At its meeting on 20 July 2021 Cabinet considered:**

##### **B. COVID-19: SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL - UPDATE, REVIEW AND LESSONS LEARNED**

As the nation moved into the final stage of the Government's planned roadmap for easing lockdown restrictions, the report presented to Cabinet summarised the extent of the council's response to date and highlights the lessons learned to date in doing so.

##### ***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet acknowledges the impact that COVID-19 has had and continues to have on Surrey, its residents and economy and the services provided by the Council.

2. That Cabinet notes and endorses the actions being delivered through Surrey's Local Outbreak Control Plan, including the vaccination roll out, and the ongoing support to vulnerable residents, including through the council's Community Helpline and the COVID-19 Winter Support Grant scheme.
3. That Cabinet reviews and comments on the lessons learned derived from a review by the Surrey Local Resilience Forum and County Council on the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Reasons for decisions:**

The recommendations set out in this report ensure that the Cabinet are appraised of the scope, detail and learning from our response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic to date.

**C. RIVER THAMES SCHEME COLLABORATION AGREEMENT PRINCIPLES**

The report outlined the principles to be used in the development of the Collaboration Agreement between Surrey County Council (SCC) and the Environment Agency (EA) and any additional associated contracts and agreements as may be required as a natural consequence of the completing the Collaboration Agreement.

***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet approves the principles proposed for the development of the Collaboration Agreement.
2. That Cabinet agrees the delegation of authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and the Executive Director of Resources, to enter into the collaboration agreement and to take such actions and decisions necessary to facilitate the delivery of the Scheme within the approved budget.
3. That Cabinet recommends to Council that all decisions and actions relating to the Council's regulatory and planning functions that pertain to the River Thames Scheme be delegated to the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Planning Group Manager.

**Reasons for decisions:**

The River Thames Scheme Collaboration Agreement will provide a sound legal basis for partnership working between the EA and SCC to deliver the River Thames Scheme.

However, development of the Agreement will take some time and will not be complete until the end of the calendar year. As such, Cabinet approval of a set of Collaboration Agreement principles will provide political support and direction for the negotiation of the full legal agreement, ensuring that it will represent the Council's best interests.

The delegation of the approval of the final Collaboration Agreement as set out in the recommendations will ensure that SCC decision making is as agile as possible and does not hold up progress on the Scheme.

In addition, Cabinet has previously approved, on 26 January 2021, the need to develop an approach to separate the exercise of the Council's functions as (i) a joint applicant to the DCO and (ii) its regulatory functions as a local planning authority to avoid a perceived conflict of interest. The final recommendation above puts this into action.

#### **D. JOINT WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FINANCE SERVICES WITH TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The report sought approval for Surrey County Council's continuing support for the finance partnership with Tandridge District Council (TDC), the Tandridge Finance Transformation Plan and the resources necessary from Surrey County Council officers to support its successful delivery within TDC. Subject to this, to also approve the creation of a Joint Working Agreement following satisfactory negotiation of the detailed arrangements.

##### ***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet approve the continued development of the Finance Services partnership with Tandridge District Council through the development and delivery of the Tandridge Finance Transformation (TFT) Programme.
2. That Cabinet approve the commitment of the necessary SCC officer time to support the successful delivery of the TFT plan within TDC.
3. That Cabinet approve the development of a Joint Working Agreement with TDC and delegate its final approval to the Executive Director, Resources, subject to the satisfactory negotiation of the details of the working arrangements.

##### **Reasons for decisions:**

TDC faces challenges both in terms of needing to improve its financial health and the capacity and capability of the finance function. SCC has been providing support to the TDC finance function since August 2020 during which time formative progress has been made. There is now a need to broaden the scope of the work to ensure that the changes identified as necessary (both within the TDC finance function and more widely across TDC) can be delivered.

A transformation plan ('TFT') has been developed which identifies a new operating model for the TDC finance function and includes a business case for the necessary investment to support the delivery of the TFT plan. This plan will involve the commitment of officer time from SCC to ensure its successful delivery. A Joint Working Agreement will provide the formal legal basis for the governance of the partnership and clarify the expectations of both Parties.

The development of the finance partnership with TDC supports the delivery of one of the SCC key objectives which is to develop Stronger Partnerships with other public services.

The successful delivery of the TFT plan will assist TDC to emerge with a stronger underlying financial position and a finance function which is capable of sustaining this over the longer term.

**At its meeting on 28 September 2021 Cabinet considered:**

**E. AWARD OF TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR HIGHWAY SERVICES**

In September 2020, Cabinet approved the Procurement Strategy for the Highways Contracts. This report provided an update to Cabinet following a procurement exercise for the Term Maintenance Contract and proposed a recommendation to award the contract to the successful bidder.

***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet approves the award of the Term Maintenance Contract to the successful bidder; and authority be delegated to finalise and enter into contract with the successful bidder to the Executive Director for Environment, Transport and Infrastructure in consultation with the Executive Director for Resources and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure.

**Reasons for decisions:**

For several years, the Council has worked with private sector partners to deliver highway maintenance and improvement activities across the county on its behalf, and with the current arrangements expiring in April 2022 a new contract arrangement needs to be determined.

Following approval of the Procurement Strategy in September 2020, officers from Highways and Transport supported by officers from across the Council including Procurement, Legal Finance and Strategic Commissioning have conducted a “Competitive Procedure with Negotiation” procurement exercise to identify the next Term Maintenance provider.

Following the recent completion of that procurement process, officers are now able to recommend the contract be awarded to the most “economically advantageous” bidder as explained in the Part 2 report.

**F. POLICY ON THE USE OF SAFETY CAMERAS IN SURREY**

The report presents a new policy which sets out the criteria and process that will be followed for investment in new safety cameras.

***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet approve the policy on the use of safety cameras in Surrey presented in Annex 1 of the submitted report.

**Reasons for decisions:**

Higher vehicle speeds increase the risk of collisions. Also, the higher the speed the more severe the consequences are likely to be. Safety cameras have proven to be a

very effective intervention to reducing casualties at the worst casualty hotspots where speeding or failure to comply with red traffic signals have been part of the problem.

In more recent years there has been greater use of average speed cameras as these can encourage greater compliance with the speed limit over a longer stretch of road compared with spot speed cameras. The policy presented here will ensure that safety cameras will continue to be deployed effectively in Surrey to reduce road collisions. It also allows for deployment at other locations to reduce the impact of speeding traffic in local communities where there might be concerns over air quality, noise pollution and congestion. It will also free up police officer enforcement resources to be deployed to tackle other locations.

## **G. SURREY OUTDOOR LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT – PHASE 1, THAMES YOUNG MARINERS**

The report requested Cabinet to approve capital investment of £6.2m for Thames Young Mariners, Phase 1 of the Surrey Outdoor Learning Development (SOLD) improvement programme.

### ***Cabinet AGREED:***

1. That Cabinet approves the total funding of £6.2m. This comprises £4.2m to be transferred from the current pipeline within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) that was approved on 9 February 2021 as part of the capital programme. An additional £2m of capital investment has been identified through this business case to enable a comprehensive rebuild of the site, address significant repair and maintenance requirements and to extend and enhance the site's facilities which will generate additional income for the Council.

### **Reason for Decisions:**

Capital development at Thames Young Mariners will enable SOLD to realise the potential in the site through a significant increase in service capacity, supporting the Council's strategic priorities for children, young people, and families by providing bespoke programmes of personal development, appropriate education, skills training and family support. It will further enhance SOLD's ability to work in partnership with services across the Children, Families and Lifelong Learning Directorate to support vulnerable children and young people including children with a social worker, young people in contact with the criminal justice system and children missing education. Whilst focussing on children and young people, the facilities will also be available for all ages to support the Council's broader strategic objectives.

Commitment to the £6.2m capital investment would allow TYM to offer an all year-round programme. The lack of year-round residential and day facilities means the site can only operate April – October, with five months of no significant on-site activity. Market testing confirms that post-pandemic there is considerable unmet demand from the customer base for year-round and residential facilities.

The proposed investment will see TYM contribute significantly to the long-term financial sustainability of SOLD as the investment will be self-funding through the net

surplus created each year. In addition, site assessments of the current property confirm that the facilities are increasingly unsafe and require urgent backlog maintenance works of £0.4m simply to make the site safe and facilities usable in the immediate term. Site assessments also confirm that in the next five years, a further £0.9m of capital forward maintenance will be required to maintain the facilities at an acceptable, safe standard.

In the mid to long term period, by proceeding with the proposed £6.2m capital investment programme at TYM, the Council will in total reduce its net maintenance liability by approximately £1m over the next ten year period as the current site is in very poor condition and will require significant works to maintain the standards of the building and surrounding site.

In the longer term, should the proposed works not proceed, in addition to the most urgent maintenance requirements, there is also a further requirement of maintenance works over the next 30 years of £1.68m based on an annual estimated cost of £56k for building and external areas. Lack of further investment will also put the achievement of planned revenue generation from TYM (circa £235k per annum by 2025/26) at serious risk.

#### **H. QUARTERLY REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER SPECIAL URGENCY ARRANGEMENTS: 14 July 2021 - 4 October 2021**

The Cabinet is required under the Constitution to report to Council on a quarterly basis the details of decisions taken by the Cabinet and Cabinet Members under the special urgency arrangements set out in Standing Order 57 of the Constitution. This occurs where a decision is required on a matter that is not contained within the Leader's Forward Plan (Notice of Decisions), nor available 5 clear days before the meeting. Where a decision on such matters could not reasonably be delayed, the agreement of the Chairman of the appropriate Select Committee, or in his/her absence the Chairman of the Council, must be sought to enable the decision to be made.

***The Cabinet RECOMMENDS that the County Council notes that there have been NO urgent decision in the last three months.***

**Tim Oliver, Leader of the Council  
4 October 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET  
HELD ON 20 JULY 2021 AT 2.00 PM  
AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, WOODHATCH PLACE, 11 COCKSHOT HILL,  
REIGATE, SURREY, RH2 8EF.**

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

Members:

\* = Present

*Tim Oliver (Chairman)	*Natalie Bramhall
*Clare Curran	*Matt Furniss
*Mark Nuti	*Denise Turner-Stewart
*Sinead Mooney	*Marisa Heath
*Becky Rush	*Luke Bennett

Deputy Cabinet Members:

*Steve Bax	*Kevin Deanus
*Edward Hawkins	*Maureen Attewell

The following Cabinet Member and Deputy Cabinet Members attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams and therefore could not vote on any items being discussed. Deputy Cabinet Members do not have voting rights.

\*Sinead Mooney  
\*Becky Rush  
\*Steve Bax  
\*Maureen Attewell

Members in attendance:

Will Forster, Local Member for Woking South  
Jonathan Essex, Local Member for Redhill East  
Catherine Baart, Local Member for Earlswood and Reigate South

**PART ONE  
IN PUBLIC**

**134/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

There were no apologies.

**135/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 29 JUNE 2021 [Item 2]**

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 29 June 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**136/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

There were none.

**137/21 PROCEDURAL MATTERS [Item 4]**

#### **137/211 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 4a]**

There were six member questions. The questions and responses were published as a supplement to the agenda.

With regards to his second member question, Will Forster queried if the details of the bid would be sent to councillors as soon as it was published. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure confirmed that as with Tranche 2, divisional members would be consulted on the schemes in their area. With regards to his third member question, Will Forster asked what the council was doing to improve response times to FOI requests. The Leader stated that 208 days was an exception and that a number of requests were received that required a lot of officer time to ensure accuracy. Steps were being taken to improve response times and the Leader would brief the member on this.

With regards to member question 4, Jonathan Essex stated that he felt that the item in question conflicted with the councils carbon reduction strategy and asked for the relevant numbers that underpinned the report. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure stated that the work being undertaken would facilitate the Runnymede Local Plan and would ease congestion to the road in question. Modelling would be available as part of the planning application and the member was advised to submit comments as part of the planning application. With regards to member question 5, Jonathan Essex asked what the council was doing to lobby government around the scarcity of social workers. The Cabinet Member for Children and Families stated that the issues at hand were national and that there was very little the government could do. The Leader explained that a paper would be taken to the Strategic Investment Board around the arrangements for recruitment.

#### **138/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4b]**

There was one public question. The question and response were published as a supplement to the agenda.

David Beaman queried what was being done to promote World Car Free Day on 22 September. The Cabinet Member for Environment stated that she would take an action away to notify as many members across all authorities in Surrey about World Car Free Day.

#### **139/21 PETITIONS [Item 4c]**

There were none.

#### **140/21 REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE [Item 4d]**

There were none.

#### **141/21 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES , TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL [Item 5]**

There were none.

**142/21 LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING [Item 6]**

The Cabinet Member for Education updated the Cabinet on the series of decisions that had been taken in relation to her portfolio.

**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.

**143/21 COVID-19 DELEGATED AND URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN [Item 7]**

The decision was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Education who explained that the government had announced a further extension of the COVID Local Support Grant to support vulnerable families. The extension covered the period 21 June to 30 September 2021, with a further £160m of support being announced. Will Forster queried if the council would continue to support young people on pupil premium over the summer and what plans were in place to help young people who missed out on education, catch up over the summer. The Cabinet Member for Education reassured members that all vulnerable families would be able to access funding and support over the summer.

**RESOLVED:**

1. 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.]*

**144/21 COVID-19: SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL - UPDATE, REVIEW AND LESSONS LEARNED [Item 8]**

The report was introduced by the Leader who explained that Surrey County Council had taken a leading role in the ongoing local response; ensuring residents were protected and well-supported throughout these unprecedented times. The report sets out the latest Public Health information about COVID-19 and updates Cabinet on the strategic and sensitive issues arising from the extensive response and recovery work going on across Surrey. Although restrictions had been lifted it was vital for residents to remain vigilant as the number of COVID-19 cases increased. A special thanks was given to the Director for Public Health and the public health team for the ongoing work.

The Cabinet Member for Adults thanked the Local Outbreak Engagement Board for leading the response against COVID-19 and thanked staff especially those who organised surge testing and stepped up to become Covid champions. The Cabinet Member for Communities thanked the customer services team at Surrey for running the local track and trace programme exceptionally.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet acknowledges the impact that COVID-19 has had and continues to have on Surrey, its residents and economy and the services provided by the Council.
2. That Cabinet notes and endorses the actions being delivered through Surrey's Local Outbreak Control Plan, including the vaccination roll out, and the ongoing support to vulnerable residents, including through the council's Community Helpline and the COVID-19 Winter Support Grant scheme.
3. That Cabinet reviews and comments on the lessons learned derived from a review by the Surrey Local Resilience Forum and County Council on the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

The recommendations set out in this report ensure that the Cabinet are appraised of the scope, detail and learning from our response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic to date.

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

**145/21 REVISED MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME [Item 9]**

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure who explained that the report presented a revision of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) in order to facilitate a delay to the commencement of the first consultation phase (Issues and Options) in the production of the new Surrey Minerals and Waste Local Plan (SMWLP). This delay would enable the Council to avoid consulting over the summer period, when it is likely that many residents may be taking the opportunity of the expected release of lockdown to go on holiday. The delay was expected to therefore, help to ensure greater engagement by residents in the consultation. Cabinet was asked to agree the updated MWDS, which sets out a revised four-year timeframe in which it is intended that the new MWLP will be adopted.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approves the proposed revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme dated July 2021, which sets out an updated timetable in relation to the production of the Surrey Minerals and Waste Local Plan, as set out at **Annex 1**.

### **Reason for Decisions:**

It is a statutory requirement to produce the MWDS and to keep it up to date. An update to the MWDS has been proposed by officers, which seeks to extend the production timeline for the new SMWLP. The extension of time will allow the first public consultation stage for the new SMWLP (Issues and Options) to commence in October 2021 (previously June 2021). This will allow consultation to commence after the summer, in the expectation that many residents may be taking the opportunity over the summer period to go on holiday. The delay will therefore enable the best possible reach of the consultation to residents.

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

### **146/21 RIVER THAMES SCHEME COLLABORATION AGREEMENT PRINCIPLES [Item 10]**

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure who explained that in October 2019, Surrey County Council Cabinet approved a commitment of £237M contribution to the River Thames Scheme which is being developed and delivered in partnership with the Environment Agency. The approval of the contribution was conditional on a legal agreement (also known as a “Collaboration Agreement”) being entered into by the Council and the Environment Agency that sets out the governance and financial arrangements for the delivery of the Scheme to its conclusion. Cabinet were being asked to approve the principles proposed for the development of the Collaboration Agreement.

Cabinet Members commented that it was positive to see progress with this work and stated their support for the programme. The Leader thanked all partners involved with the progress of the programme including the EA and stated that the council would push forward with progress as quickly as possible.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approves the principles proposed for the development of the Collaboration Agreement.
2. That Cabinet agrees the delegation of authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and the Executive Director of Resources, to enter into the collaboration agreement and to take such actions and decisions necessary to facilitate the delivery of the Scheme within the approved budget.
3. That Cabinet recommends to Council that all decisions and actions relating to the Council's regulatory and planning functions that pertain to the River Thames Scheme be delegated to the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Planning Group Manager.

## **Reason for Decisions:**

The River Thames Scheme Collaboration Agreement will provide a sound legal basis for partnership working between the EA and SCC to deliver the River Thames Scheme.

However, development of the Agreement will take some time and will not be complete until the end of the calendar year. As such, Cabinet approval of a set of Collaboration Agreement principles will provide political support and direction for the negotiation of the full legal agreement, ensuring that it will represent the Council's best interests.

The delegation of the approval of the final Collaboration Agreement as set out in the recommendations will ensure that SCC decision making is as agile as possible and does not hold up progress on the Scheme.

In addition, Cabinet has previously approved, on 26 January 2021, the need to develop an approach to separate the exercise of the Council's functions as (i) a joint applicant to the DCO and (ii) its regulatory functions as a local planning authority to avoid a perceived conflict of interest. The final recommendation above puts this into action.

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

## **147/21 ACQUISITION OF LAND IN SUPPORT OF THE A320 ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME [Item 11]**

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure who explained that in September 2020 Cabinet decision to proceed with the A320 Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Scheme. The report requests Cabinet to resolve to make a compulsory purchase order to purchase the necessary third-party land for the A320 HIF Scheme, and to make and submit such Order to the Secretary of State for confirmation. In order to support sustainable growth in this area, highway capacity improvements are required to five road junctions, four of which are on the A320, and the other, the M25 junction 11. Highway capacity improvement will allow 11 Green Belt sites to be released for the development of over 3,000 new homes including over 1,000 affordable homes. The Runnymede Local Plan specifically acknowledges that the development of 11 proposed housing site allocations along the A320 corridor are reliant specifically on the delivery of the mitigation proposed for the A320 corridor.

Cabinet Member commented that there had been positive engagement with local members. There was a recognition that the work would improve congestion along the A320. Will Forster stated that he was concerned that no Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) had been undertaken. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure referring to paragraph 33 of the report stated that the County had adopted an EIA screening opinion which concluded that the project is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment and so EIA was not required.

## **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet authorise the making of a compulsory purchase order (the Order) under the provisions of section 239 of the Highways Act 1980 to acquire the Order Land to facilitate the carrying out of the said Scheme, being satisfied that there is a compelling case in the public interest for the compulsory purchase of the Order Land to facilitate the carrying out of the A320 HIF Scheme.
2. That Cabinet authorise the Executive Director of Environment, Transport and Infrastructure (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure) to settle the final extent, form and content of the Order and all associated documentation and take all action needed to pursue the Order and secure its confirmation.
3. That Cabinet authorise the Director of Law and Governance (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure) to negotiate, agree land acquisition terms, and enter into agreements with interested parties, including agreements for the withdrawal of objections; to give undertakings not to enforce the Order on specific terms; (where appropriate) to remove land or rights from the Order, or to request the modification of the Order by the Secretary of State.
4. That Cabinet authorise the Director of Law and Governance (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure) to implement the Order powers following confirmation of the Order, including acquiring title to and/or possession of the land and paying compensation agreed or determined.
5. That Cabinet authorise the Director of Law and Governance (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure) to enter into an agreement (or agreements) with Highways England under sections 6 and 8 of the Highways Act 1980:
6. That Cabinet accept the delegation of the functions of Highways England with regard to the improvements to highways at M25 junction 11 including the making of the compulsory purchase order in respect of the Order Land at junction 11 (where the Council is not the highway authority).

## **Reason for Decisions:**

In September 2020 the Cabinet confirmed acceptance of the HIF funding award of £41.8 million (see [Cabinet Paper](#) at item 13).

As at the Cabinet decision date of September 2020 the Scheme had not been fully designed, thus the final land take was not known, and the Report anticipated that a further authority to pursue a compulsory purchase order would be sought from Cabinet. This paper seeks that further authority to make a Compulsory Purchase Order and to seek its confirmation by the Secretary of State.

The decision as recommended by this report will enable the Council with funding for its Infrastructure Fund Forward Funding scheme from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) to construct the

necessary infrastructure improvements described above. To facilitate such construction, it will be necessary to purchase additional land adjacent to the A320 public highway from third party landowners either by negotiation and voluntary agreements or by compulsory purchase.

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

#### **148/21 CLEANING CONSUMABLES CONTRACT [Item 12]**

The Leader explained that Surrey County Council services collectively spent c£550k during 2020 through the current supplier catalogue, compared to c£400k the previous year on cleaning consumables. This increase was due to covid-19. The council was now looking to procure for a contract to enable the provision of cleaning consumables across Surrey County Council's care homes, schools, offices and libraries for a period of four years.

It was agreed that social value needed to be captured in the procurement process and cruelty free products needed to be used where possible.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet grants Approval to Procure for a contract to enable the provision of cleaning consumables across Surrey County Council's care homes, schools, offices and libraries. A decision is required to add this procurement to the Annual Procurement Forward Plan (APFP) for 2021/22.
2. That Cabinet delegates the authority for contract award decision to the Executive Director for Resources.

#### **Reason for Decision:**

- To comply with the Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by the Council in May 2019.
- To provide Cabinet with strategic oversight of planned procurement projects for 2021/22.
- To secure fixed product and service pricing where possible, and economies of scale for a wide variety of products ordered frequently across multiple sites within Surrey.

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

#### **149/21 JOINT WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FINANCE SERVICES WITH TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL [Item 13]**

The Leader introduced the report explaining that the council had been providing support to Tandridge District Council (TDC) through the part-time secondment of its Director of Corporate Finance to act as the Tandridge s151 officer, as well as a full-time secondment of a finance business partner post since August 2020. The report would be asking the Cabinet to continue support for the finance partnership with TDC, the TFT Plan and the resources

necessary from SCC officers to support its successful delivery within TDC. The support provided by the council has been welcomed by TDC.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources explained that the council was willing to support partners and TDC had been grateful for the councils help.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approve the continued development of the Finance Services partnership with Tandridge DC through the development and delivery of the Tandridge Finance Transformation Programme.
2. That Cabinet approve the commitment of the necessary SCC officer time to support the successful delivery of the TFT plan within TDC.
3. That Cabinet approve the development of a Joint Working Agreement with TDC and delegate its final approval to the Executive Director, Resources, subject to the satisfactory negotiation of the details of the working arrangements.

**Reason for Decisions:**

TDC faces challenges both in terms of needing to improve its financial health and the capacity and capability of the finance function. SCC has been providing support to the TDC finance function since August 2020 during which time formative progress has been made. There is now a need to broaden the scope of the work to ensure that the changes identified as necessary (both within the TDC finance function and more widely across TDC) can be delivered.

A transformation plan ('TFT') has been developed which identifies a new operating model for the TDC finance function and includes a business case for the necessary investment to support the delivery of the TFT plan. This plan will involve the commitment of officer time from SCC to ensure its successful delivery. A Joint Working Agreement will provide the formal legal basis for the governance of the partnership and clarify the expectations of both Parties.

The development of the finance partnership with TDC supports the delivery of one of the SCC key objectives which is to develop Stronger Partnerships with other public services.

The successful delivery of the TFT plan will assist TDC to emerge with a stronger underlying financial position and a finance function which is capable of sustaining this over the longer term.

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

**150/21 2020/21 MONTH 2 (MAY) FINANCIAL REPORT [Item 14]**

The report was introduced by the Leader who explained that at M2, the Council was forecasting a full year £15.9m deficit, against the budget approved by Council in February 2021. The contingencies built into the 2021/22 budget exceeded the forecast deficit and so a balanced outturn was

expected. However, it was still the expectation that Directorates manage the overspend within their budget envelopes. The council would continue to lobby government around funding for SEND and adult social care.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet note the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year.
2. That Cabinet agree the carry forward of two amounts within the DSG schools block totalling £183k into 2021/22.

**Reason for Decisions:**

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]*

**151/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC [Item 15]**

**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.

**152/21 ACQUISITION OF LAND IN SUPPORT OF THE A320 ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME [Item 16]**

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure introduced a Part 2 report containing 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:**

See Minute 147/21.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

See Minute 147/21.

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

**153/21 PUBLICITY FOR PART 2 ITEMS [Item 17]**

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

Meeting closed at 03:17pm

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**Chairman**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET  
HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 2.00 PM  
AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WOODHATCH PLACE, 11 COCKSHOT  
HILL, REIGATE, SURREY ,RH2 8EF.**

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

Members:

\* = Present

*Tim Oliver (Chairman)	Natalie Bramhall
*Clare Curran	*Matt Furniss
*Mark Nuti	*Denise Turner-Stewart
*Sinead Mooney	*Marisa Heath
*Becky Rush	

Deputy Cabinet Members:

*Steve Bax	*Kevin Deanus
*Maureen Attewell	

Members in attendance:

Will Forster, Local Member for Woking South  
Jonathan Essex, Local Member for Redhill East  
Catherine Baart, Local Member for Earlswood and Reigate South  
John O'Reilly, Chairman of the Communities, Environment and Highways  
Select Committee

**PART ONE**  
**IN PUBLIC**

The Leader stated that there seemed to be a misunderstanding amongst the press regarding fuel pressures. Although the Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) had met, a major incident had not been declared. The Leader urged all residents not to panic and to only purchase fuel when it was required. Residents were encouraged to walk or use public transport where they could.

**154/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]**

Apologies were received from Natalie Bramhall.

**155/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 20 JULY 2021 [Item 2]**

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 20 July 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**156/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]**

Sinead Mooney declared an interest that her husband had a role with one of the three contractors who had bid for the term maintenance contract for highway services. She abstained from taking part in discussions regarding Items 10 and 19.

## **157/21 PROCEDURAL MATTERS [Item 4]**

### **157/211 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS [Item 4a]**

There were nine member questions. The questions and responses were published as a supplement to the agenda.

The Local Member for Earlswood and Reigate South queried how close the council was to securing funding for the council's climate change targets. The Cabinet Member for Environment explained that a finance plan that accompanies the climate change plan would be coming to Cabinet in due course and agreed that there was more work to do to lobby government for long term funding.

The Local Member for Redhill East queried what arrangements would be in place for the scrutiny of the response to the Gatwick Airport public consultation. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure explained that comments made by members following the member briefing session on 25 October would be included in the response to the consultation. The tight deadlines meant that a response would need to be turned around quickly. The member queried if there would be a second member briefing session to scrutinise the draft response to the consultation. The Cabinet Member stated that he would respond to the member in writing.

In response to his member question the Local Member for Woking South asked why staff could only claim 75% of expenses on a taxi journey between Redhill Station, Reigate Station and Woodhatch Place whilst members could claim 100% and how many staff had raised concerns around the current Woodhatch transport arrangements. The Leader explained that he did not have this information to hand. He would respond to the member in writing and was not aware of any staff concerns.

The Local Member for Woking South queried how many sites had been identified for rainbow crossings. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure explained that 22 sites had been identified with each going through a full safety audit. The divisional member would be consulted on the crossing and work was ongoing with Pride in Surrey to identify more areas.

On his last question, the Local Member for Woking South queried how many Surrey care home staff were unwilling to take the vaccine. The Cabinet Member for Adults and Health agreed to respond to the member in writing.

### **158/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS [Item 4b]**

There were no public questions.

### **159/21 PETITIONS [Item 4c]**

There were none.

### **160/21 REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE [Item 4d]**

There were none.

## **161/21 REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES , TASK GROUPS, LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL [Item 5]**

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure was thanked for his vigorous and powerful response to the South Western Railway consultation. The Chairman of the Select Committee introduced the recommendations on the procurement of highways' term maintenance contract and the policy on the use of safety cameras in Surrey. The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member for the response to the recommendations and stated that it was positive to see a commitment to Surrey residents as the contract matures. The Chairman of the Select Committee commented that the policy on the use of safety cameras was sound and that expectations around cameras for community concern sites needed to be managed carefully.

The Leader explained that the initiative around speed cameras was started by the county council who approached the police. The Cabinet Member thanked the Select Committee for their excellent recommendations.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the report from the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee on the procurement of highways' term maintenance contract and the policy on the use of safety cameras in Surrey be noted and recommendations agreed.

## **162/21 LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING [Item 6]**

The delegated decisions were noted by Cabinet.

### **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.

## **163/21 COVID-19 DELEGATED AND URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN [Item 7]**

The Cabinet Member for Adults and Health provided some more detail around the Disbursement of Infection Control Grant Funding round 4 and Rapid Testing Fund round 3 and funding for the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. She explained that funding from the Department of Health had been distributed amongst the workforce and providers.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. 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.

**164/21 CABINET MEMBER OF THE MONTH [Item 8]**

The Cabinet Member of the month report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure. The Cabinet Member started by saying that three bidders Amey, Kier and Ringway were keen to join Surrey and bring their expertise and new ideas for the future contract which had now been awarded. Surrey's new Lane Rental Scheme commenced on 1 April and positive behaviour changes from contractors were already being felt. In the last 12 months, 3000 whips had also been planted across the county. The highways team were also trialling the use of 'cold lay' materials for repairing potholes. The 'cold lay' materials could be used in all weathers and could provide a number of benefits when compared to traditional materials. These would be used for everyday emergency works. Members commented on the positive work being undertaken in the highways service and the resident focused initiatives. The Cabinet Member explained to the committee that two thirds of the work carried out on the highways network was done by either Broadband or Water companies. BT had recently been taken to court by the county council and prosecuted and fined £60k for carrying out unsatisfactory work on the highway. Members were informed that residents could find out how many trees were being planted in their local areas via an interactive map on the county councils website.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Cabinet Member of the Month report be noted.

**165/21 AMENDMENTS TO THE SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM BY SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL [Item 9]**

The Cabinet Member for Communities explained that Spelthorne Borough Council had changed its form of governance to a committee system which would in turn impact the operation of the Spelthorne Joint Committee. As a result the constitution of the Spelthorne Joint Committee would need to be updated.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet agrees the changes to Spelthorne Joint Committee constitution, to reflect the change from a Cabinet to a Committee system within Spelthorne Borough Council, as set out in this report and Annex A.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

To ensure that the Joint Committee constitution is fit for purpose.

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

## **166/21 AWARD OF TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR HIGHWAY SERVICES [Item 10]**

*Sinead Mooney left the meeting at 14:40*

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure explained that the report provided an update following a procurement exercise for the Term Maintenance Contract and proposed a recommendation to award the contract to the successful bidder. The award of the contract would enable the Council to preserve and improve Surrey's infrastructure and support the connectivity that would facilitate growing a sustainable economy and tackling health inequality. The procurement process undertaken would also enable a greener future through the commitments achieved on environmental sustainability and reductions in highway operational carbon emissions. The contract would last a minimum of ten years and a maximum of 21 years. A robust tender exercise had been undertaken with the three bidders, Amey, Ringway and Kier. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources explained that a financial deep dive had been undertaken with the contract and pricing mechanisms had been incorporated into the contract. The Cabinet Member was happy with the financial outlook for the contract.

There was a discussion around social value and it was explained that social value outputs were expected as a core benefit of the contract. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure gave some detail around the Surrey Infrastructure Academy and S-Skills which were great examples of offering employment opportunities for young people in tandem with the county council.

The local member for Woking South stated that concerns had been raised about all three contractors and if the council had considered running the service in house. The Cabinet Member explained that the council had good oversight over contracts and took a vigorous and thorough approach to these. Running the service in house had been considered but it was felt that working in partnership with a contractor was the best approach forward. The Leader explained that the Select Committee would monitor the delivery of the contract and that a six month mobilisation period had been built within the contract.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approves the award of the Term Maintenance Contract to the successful bidder; and authority be delegated to finalise and enter into contract with the successful bidder to the Executive Director for Environment, Transport and Infrastructure in consultation with the Executive Director for Resources and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure.

### **Reasons for Decisions:**

For several years, the Council has worked with private sector partners to deliver highway maintenance and improvement activities across the county on its behalf, and with the current arrangements expiring in April 2022 a new contract arrangement needs to be determined.

Following approval of the Procurement Strategy in September 2020, officers from Highways and Transport supported by officers from across the Council

including Procurement, Legal Finance and Strategic Commissioning have conducted a “Competitive Procedure with Negotiation” procurement exercise to identify the next Term Maintenance provider.

Following the recent completion of that procurement process, officers are now able to recommend the contract be awarded to the most “economically advantageous” bidder as explained in the Part 2 report.

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

*Sinead Mooney returned to the meeting at 14:58*

## **167/21 GREEN HOMES GRANT LOCAL AUTHORITY DELIVERY (GHGLAD) FUNDING [Item 11]**

The Cabinet Member for Environment explained that the report requested authorisation for the Council to act as consortium lead and accept into the capital budget £3.2m grant funding from Government’s Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHGLAD) Phase 2 for the purpose of decarbonising low-income homes in Surrey. The report also requests approval to accept additional funding streams with the purpose of decarbonising housing in Surrey which is delegated to the Council’s Capital Programme Panel; these funding streams include GHG LAD Phase 3 and the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG). Members welcomed the report and recommendations agreeing that the funding would increase social wellbeing and ensure nobody was left behind especially those on low incomes. The local member for Woking South queried how the council would work with private landlords. The Cabinet Member stated that the terms and conditions that came with the funding would set out how the council would be required to work with landlords.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet Approves the addition of £3.2m to the capital programme from Government’s GHG LAD grant funding, for 21/22 (less 1% revenue costs for SCC admin).
2. That Cabinet delegates the approval to accept any future government grant funding for the purposes of decarbonising housing in Surrey to the Capital Programme Panel.

### **Reason for Decisions:**

The recommendations in this report contribute towards the delivery of two of the dial up areas in the refreshed organisation strategy. The first is supporting a greener future in Surrey. Housing in Surrey accounts for 28% of the county’s carbon emissions. This is a challenging sector in which to achieve net zero carbon by 2050 due to lack of funding and incentive for homeowners to install insulation, renewable energy and low carbon heating measures. The GHGLAD programme helps to overcome these issues by providing a full grant to low-income households for decarbonisation measures.

The second dial up area is tackling health inequalities. Approximately 7% of households in Surrey are in fuel poverty, which largely impacts upon low-income households and is linked to increased winter illnesses and deaths.

The GH Lad programme helps to reduce fuel poverty by providing grant funding to improve the energy efficiency of energy inefficient homes resided in by fuel poor households.

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

#### **168/21 POLICY ON THE USE OF SAFETY CAMERAS IN SURREY [Item 12]**

The report presented a new policy which set out the criteria and process that will be followed for investment in new safety cameras. This included average speed, spot speed, red-light and combination cameras. The successful application of the policy would reduce road collisions and the congestion associated with them, and therefore improve journey time reliability. There was great public support for this new policy and the Surrey road safety partnership board would take the final decisions on the introduction of new safety camera sites.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approve the policy on the use of safety cameras in Surrey presented in Annex 1.

#### **Reason for Decisions:**

Higher vehicle speeds increase the risk of collisions. Also, the higher the speed the more severe the consequences are likely to be. Safety cameras have proven to be a very effective intervention to reducing casualties at the worst casualty hotspots where speeding or failure to comply with red traffic signals have been part of the problem.

In more recent years there has been greater use of average speed cameras as these can encourage greater compliance with the speed limit over a longer stretch of road compared with spot speed cameras. The policy presented here will ensure that safety cameras will continue to be deployed effectively in Surrey to reduce road collisions. It also allows for deployment at other locations to reduce the impact of speeding traffic in local communities where there might be concerns over air quality, noise pollution and congestion. It will also free up police officer enforcement resources to be deployed to tackle other locations.

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

#### **169/21 SURREY OUTDOOR LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT - PHASE 1, THAMES YOUNG MARINERS [Item 13]**

The report introduced by the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning asked Cabinet to approve capital investment of £6.2m for Thames Young Mariners, Phase 1 of the Surrey Outdoor Learning Development (SOLD) improvement programme. The site required significant investment to bring it up to current health and safety standards with modern, fit for purpose facilities which will allow SOLD to increase its service capacity and strengthen its commercial operation to generate income for Surrey County Council. The site in question forms part of alternative provision in Surrey. Finance colleagues have concluded the option 3 was the most financially viable option.

There was recognition from members on the benefits of this type of site for young people. The site at High Ashurst was used as an example of great work being done to support young people.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approves the total funding of £6.2m. This comprises £4.2m to be transferred from the current pipeline within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) that was approved on 9 February 2021 as part of the capital programme. An additional £2m of capital investment has been identified through this business case to enable a comprehensive rebuild of the site, address significant repair and maintenance requirements and to extend and enhance the site's facilities which will generate additional income for the Council.

**Reason for Decisions:**

Capital development at Thames Young Mariners will enable SOLD to realise the potential in the site through a significant increase in service capacity, supporting the Council's strategic priorities for children, young people, and families by providing bespoke programmes of personal development, appropriate education, skills training and family support. It will further enhance SOLD's ability to work in partnership with services across the Children, Families and Lifelong Learning Directorate to support vulnerable children and young people including children with a social worker, young people in contact with the criminal justice system and children missing education. Whilst focussing on children and young people, the facilities will also be available for all ages to support the Council's broader strategic objectives.

Commitment to the £6.2m capital investment would allow TYM to offer an all year-round programme. The lack of year-round residential and day facilities means the site can only operate April – October, with five months of no significant on-site activity. Market testing confirms that post-pandemic there is considerable unmet demand from the customer base for year-round and residential facilities.

The proposed investment will see TYM contribute significantly to the long-term financial sustainability of SOLD as the investment will be self-funding through the net surplus created each year. In addition, site assessments of the current property confirm that the facilities are increasingly unsafe and require urgent backlog maintenance works of £0.4m simply to make the site safe and facilities usable in the immediate term. Site assessments also confirm that in the next five years, a further £0.9m of capital forward maintenance will be required to maintain the facilities at an acceptable, safe standard.

In the mid to long term period, by proceeding with the proposed £6.2m capital investment programme at TYM, the Council will in total reduce its net maintenance liability by approximately £1m over the next ten year period as the current site is in very poor condition and will require significant works to maintain the standards of the building and surrounding site.

In the longer term, should the proposed works not proceed, in addition to the most urgent maintenance requirements, there is also a further requirement of

maintenance works over the next 30 years of £1.68m based on an annual estimated cost of £56k for building and external areas. Lack of further investment will also put the achievement of planned revenue generation from TYM (circa £235k per annum by 2025/26) at serious risk.

*(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee)*

**170/21 APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT ROUTE TO MARKET AND TO DELEGATE THE AWARD DECISION FOR SURREY ONLINE SCHOOL [Item 14]**

The Cabinet Member for Education and Learning explained that the Surrey Online School was an innovative council service that provided an online, high-quality learning experience in a live, safeguarded environment for vulnerable children and children with additional needs countywide. The current contract expired on 22 July 2022 and a new contract was required for 1 September 2022 for a duration of three years. Referring to the annexes alongside the report a member of the committee highlighted the positive feedback received on the Surrey Online School.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet grants approval to procure a contract for the provision of Surrey Online School. The new contract will start on 1 September 2022. This will be a 3-year contract with the option to extend by an additional two years in 12 monthly increments, making the possible contract term 5 years in total. Current estimated annual value is circa £310,000 so total cost over the maximum 5-year period could be up to £1,550,000.
2. That authority for the contract award decision be delegated to the Executive Director for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning and the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning.

**Reason for decision:**

To comply with the Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by the Council in May 2019 and to provide Cabinet with strategic oversight of planned procurement projects for 2021/22.

A new contract is required to meet the statutory obligation of Surrey County Council by providing quality assured learning experiences online for vulnerable children and children with additional needs.

*(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee)*

**171/21 MOLE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT SCHEME [Item 15]**

Approval was requested to procure services for the delivery of the Mole Bridge replacement scheme as part of the Capital Structures works programme in the 2022/23 financial year. The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure explained that cost analysis had been undertaken on the bridge and the cost to replace or refurbish the bridge were very much the

same. Replacing the bridge would ensure its compliance with modern standards. The Deputy Cabinet Member to the Leader was the divisional member for the area in which the bridge was located and welcomed the replacement. He explained that work was necessary and although the closure of the bridge would cause disruption, residents welcomed the work being carried out.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet approve the procurement of services to deliver the Mole Bridge replacement scheme as part of the Capital Structures 2022/23 programme.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

The scheme will replace a bridge that has reached the end of its life and will make improvements to other aspects of the highway environment. This includes wider carriageway lanes and additional footway provision as well as improved visibility at the adjacent junction for all road users.

The termination of the existing Highways Term Partnering Contract and implementation of new Contract in April 2022 poses a risk to the delivery and the required timescales of this project. An alternative procurement route is therefore required, which will be determined through a procurement report.

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

**172/21 WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES [Item 16]**

The report presented to Cabinet and requested an approval to procure for Water and Wastewater Services. East Sussex County Council would be leading a collaborative tender exercise to re-procure these services. The contract would include social value benefits and reflect the councils climate change targets.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet grants Approval to Procure a contract for the provision of the supply of Water and Wastewater Services. The new contract will start on 1 February 2022.
2. That authority for the contract award decision be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources.

**Reason for Decisions:**

This will allow Surrey County Council (SCC) to compliantly procure a contract for water, wastewater and ancillary services which will be designed to provide improvement in quality and reduction in cost of the current level of service provided to date.

*(This item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee]*

## **173/21 2021/22 MONTH 4 (JULY) FINANCIAL REPORT [Item 17]**

The report was introduced by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for finance and resources who explained that at Month 4 the Council was forecasting a full year £19.5m deficit against the revenue budget. The deficit predominantly consisted of demands from Covid-19, adult social care and SEND. Contingencies had been built into the 2021/22 budget so a balanced outturn was anticipated. However, it was still the expectation that Directorates managed overspend within their budget envelopes. The Council had approved a capital budget for 2021/22 of £184.9m in February 2021. This had been reset to £201.1m to reflect subsequent Cabinet approvals and a reprofiling of schemes based on Quarter 1 forecasts. The Cabinet Member wished the Surrey county council finance and pensions team all the best as they had been shortlisted for the Public Finance Awards 2021.

The Leader reiterated the importance of the council delivering a balanced budget for the year.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Cabinet note the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year, including the reset capital budget.
2. That Cabinet approve a £3.9m drawdown from the Infrastructure capital pipeline to fund an increase in the capital budget for Local Highway Schemes.

### **Reason for Decisions:**

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

*(This item can be called in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee)*

## **174/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC [Item 18]**

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

## **175/21 AWARD OF TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR HIGHWAY SERVICES [Item 19]**

The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure introduced a Part 2 report containing 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:**

See Minute 166/21

**Reasons for Decisions:**

See Minute 166/21

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

**176/21 SURREY OUTDOOR LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT - PHASE 1, THAMES YOUNG MARINERS [Item 20]**

The Cabinet Member for Education and Learning introduced a Part 2 report containing 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 Cabinet notes and agrees the financial details associated with the decision to agree the business case for the delivery of Phase 1 of the Surrey Outdoor Learning Development (SOLD) improvement programme at Thames Young Mariners (TYM).
2. That Cabinet notes the proposal for Option 3 as set out in the RIBA Stage 1 Report (Annex 1).

**Reason for Decisions:**

See Minute 169/21.

*(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee)*

**177/21 APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT ROUTE TO MARKET AND TO DELEGATE THE AWARD DECISION FOR SURREY ONLINE SCHOOL [Item 21]**

The Cabinet Member for Education and Learning introduced a Part 2 report containing 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:**

See Minute 170/21.

**Reason for Decisions:**

See Minute 170/21.

*(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee)*

**178/21 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 15:48

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**Chairman**

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