

CABINET DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 28 March 2023 and will take effect on 06/04/2023 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered.

CALL-IN DEADLINE: 05/04/2023.

The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Cabinet. It is intended to represent the formal record of the decisions taken and to facilitate the call-in process. The minutes will be published in due course to site alongside this decision sheet.

Members wishing to request a call-in on any of these matters, should contact the Regulatory Business Manager or relevant Committee Manager.

The Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday, 28 March 2023 considered the following matters and resolved:

- **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** (Item 1)

There were no apologies.

- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 31 JANUARY 2023** (Item 2)

These were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

- **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Item 3)

There were none.

Members' Questions (Item 4a)

There was one member question. The question and response was published in a supplement to the agenda.

- **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** (Item 4b)

There were four public questions. The questions and responses were published in a supplement to the agenda.

- **PETITIONS** (Item 4c)

There were none.

- **REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE** (Item 4d)

There were none.

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

RESOLVED:

That the three Select Committee reports be noted and recommendations

considered.

- **LEADER / DEPUTY LEADER / CABINET MEMBER/ STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST CABINET MEETING (Item 6)**

The decisions taken since the last Cabinet meeting were considered.

RESOLVED:

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

- **CABINET MEMBER OF THE MONTH (Item 7)**

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member of the Month update be noted.

- **DELIVERING IN PARTNERSHIP: TOWNS - THE NEXT PHASE (Item 8)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet supports and endorse the strategic approach of delivering in partnership in towns, to address key priorities for residents, communities, partners, and the County Council.
2. That Cabinet approves the prioritised towns, identified through assessment against key socio-economic and health criteria, as set out at paragraph 20.

Reasons for Decisions:

As set out in the report, a number of communities and places in Surrey experience significant challenges with e.g. health inequalities, worklessness, skills, aging populations, child poverty, homelessness and housing, despite the general perception of the county as comfortable and prosperous. Partners across the county have set out high ambitions, supported by strategic plans, to address these. Experience has shown that the complex nature of many of the 'wicked issues' requires a multi-agency, highly collaborative approach. The approach being recommended, which reflects the learning from work to date, will drive practical delivery, beyond strategic intent, through convening, galvanising and empowering partners to work together to deliver, at an optimum spatial level (e.g. towns), supported, guided and overseen by elected representatives.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee)

- **A HOUSING, ACCOMMODATION AND HOMES STRATEGY FOR SURREY (Item 9)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet endorses the benefit of and approach taken to initiating and developing a county-wide strategy for Housing, Accommodation and Homes,
2. That Cabinet adopts the strategy and encourages others to do likewise in a spirit of collective endeavour to address the evidenced housing crisis in

Surrey.

3. That Cabinet Delegates authority to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Housing and Executive Director for Partnerships, Prosperity and Growth to make any necessary final amendments to the strategy following a period of public consultation.

Reasons for Decisions:

The baseline assessment undertaken as part of the work of developing a strategy makes clear the challenges in housing, accommodation, and homes in Surrey, with advisors describing the situation as a crisis. While recognising the sovereign responsibilities and service responsibilities for Housing and Planning of other organisations, the strategy sets out a 'Call to Government' and a 'Call to Action' to which everyone involved in housing in Surrey is encouraged to contribute.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee)

- **SEND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 DELIVERY** (Item 10)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet agrees the use of £100.2m of the total approved SEND Capital budget of £202m for 2022/23 to 2027/28 against twenty SEND Capital Programme projects with confirmed viable schemes, locations, and costs. These are part of the four capital strategies previously approved by Cabinet between 2019-2022.
2. That Cabinet approves procurement of the supply chain for the delivery of all associated services required, in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.
3. That Cabinet agrees that the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Resources, and the Director of Land and Property are authorised to award contracts, up to +10% of the budgetary tolerance level for individual projects and within the overall £202m funding envelope for 2022/23 to 2027/28 that has already been agreed.

Reasons for Decisions:

Investing in the Capital Programme's 2023/24 delivery tranche will generate a positive impact on outcomes for children with complex special educational needs and disabilities, as well as improving the Council's financial sustainability.

The committed expansion projects are business critical to ensure Surrey County Council (the Council) discharges its statutory duties under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999, Sections 13 and 14 of the Education Act 1996 and Part 27 Section 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The confirmed budgets against each of the 20 projects in the Capital Programme's 2023/24 delivery tranche are above the current threshold for £1m. Cabinet's delegated authority is required to enable the Cabinet Members for Property and Waste, Education and Lifelong Learning and Finance and Resources to approve contracts and allocate resources from the approved Capital budget for the programme to individual projects following Capital Programme Panel (CPP) approval of business cases.

To that end, agreement is sought to use defined resources to enable project

progression against the Procurement Forward Plan, so that contracts can be awarded in time to facilitate target delivery timescales for 2023 and 2024.

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

- **'PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT: SUPPORTING SURREY RESIDENTS' SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYABILITY THROUGH IMPROVED CAREERS PROVISION** (Item 11)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet endorses the focus on local recruitment, skills development and career support for all ages and notes that this programme of work aligns with the planned Lifetime of Learning Strategy as well as the Surrey Skills Plan.
2. That Cabinet endorses the approach for SCC to further explore taking on new responsibilities related to schools-focused careers advice and guidance in line with recognition of the need to operate on a Surrey County geography, subject to the appropriate funding being in place.
3. That Cabinet notes that the approach will be enhanced by 'all-age' interventions where appropriate to reflect the challenges around recruitment and the data on economic inactivity, subject to a transformation funding business case.

Reasons for Decisions:

Currently, employment, skills and careers activity is delivered through a number of organisations, in a complex skills landscape. The County Council taking greater ownership of this agenda through a stronger lead and co-ordinating role, and in some cases responsibility for direct delivery, will allow us to ensure that services, support, and activity has better alignment with our strategic priorities, whilst also delivering greater impact and improved outcomes for residents and businesses. This would enable more and better targeted support to be provided for those individuals who need it the most, as well as addressing the barriers to economic growth which are being encountered by Surrey's employers, who are keen to be more involved in designing and delivering local solutions.

(The decisions on this item can be called- in by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee or the Children, Families and Lifelong Learning Select Committee)

- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN PUBLIC REPORT REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)** (Item 12)

RESOLVED:

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

Reasons for Decisions:

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

- **RE-MODELLING THE STRATEGIC SHORT BREAKS OFFER FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR AUTISM (Item 13)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet approves the proposal to re-model the Council's Strategic Short Breaks offer by working with the market to ensure a more diverse Short Breaks offer.
2. That Cabinet grants approval to proceed with the design and construction of Short Breaks accommodation at two identified sites in Reigate and Banstead and Woking within the capital funding envelope set out in Part 2 of this paper. The sites are as follows:
 - Lakers, Denton Way, Goldsworth Park, Woking, GU21 3LG
 - The Squirrels, The Horseshoe, Banstead, SM7 2BQ
3. That Cabinet confirms approval to procure a developer to construct the new Short Breaks accommodation and delegates approval to award the contract, (including any associated changes related to the contract, once it has been awarded to ensure that it continues to meet the objectives related to this report) and manage the developments within the agreed capital funding envelope to:
 - The Director of Land and Property in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Property and Waste.
 - The Joint Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Integrated Commissioning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.

Reasons for Decisions:

To promote Carers wellbeing and enable them to have a break from their caring responsibility, but still be able to support the individual to live at home.

To enable residents with learning disabilities and/or autism who meet the Council's eligibility criteria for Adult Social Care (ASC) funding to have their need for overnight Short Breaks met in a modern, fit for purpose setting with all the necessary facilities and amenities.

To promote the independence of Surrey residents with learning disabilities and/or autism and enable them to remain in their family homes and connected to their local community.

To ensure that together with our partners we develop a range of options that improve outcomes and support for individuals and their families when offering a short break.

To make an essential contribution towards the Council's strategic objective to tackle health inequality, in line with the 2030 Community Vision for Surrey.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Adults and Health Select Committee)

- **ELECTRIC TOWNS AND CITIES INITIATIVE (ETCI) A3 AIR QUALITY PROJECT** (Item 14)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet approves the receipt of £11m grant funding from National Highways for the A3 air quality scheme through the Electric Towns and Cities Initiative, and proceeds with the scheme subject to the approval of a detailed business case by the Council's Capital Programme Panel.
2. That Cabinet agrees that, if the scheme is successful and National Highways allocates further grant to the Guildford A3 scheme within the existing timeframe, the acceptance and spend of the additional grant is delegated to the Director of Highways & Transport, in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet member.

Reasons for Decisions:

There is a legal duty on National Highways, as issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment, to address the NO₂ levels along the A3 in Guildford. This stretch of road has been identified as one of the worst roads for air quality in the country. The County Council, with Guildford Borough Council and National Highways, has a shared interest in addressing the air quality in this area - both from a public health perspective but also in light of our net zero carbon targets as a county. Residents who are users of the footpaths/cycle paths alongside this stretch of road will benefit from reduced exposure to emissions upon completion of the initiative; as well as a secondary benefit for those who drive electric vehicles having access to additional local charge points. Residents who are employed in organisations/businesses in the local area may also benefit from the travel planning element of the initiative, whereby the opportunity to join a salary sacrifice scheme may be available to encourage the move to electric vehicles.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee)

- **FUTURE BUS NETWORK REVIEW AND LOCAL BUS SERVICE INVESTMENT** (Item 15)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes the response to the public and stakeholder consultation.
2. That Cabinet agrees the proposed changes to the public bus network as set out in **Annex B**, with service changes to be implemented at the start of the new academic year in September 2023.
3. That Cabinet agrees the recommended priority areas for capital investment to support bus services and help grow bus patronage.
4. That Cabinet agrees the recommended areas for expansion of new Digital Demand Responsive Transport services in 2023 as set out in **Annex C**.
5. That Cabinet agrees the process and timescales for updating the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership Scheme and agree that the approval and submission of the Bus Service Improvement Plan to Government be delegated to the Director of Highways and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Infrastructure and Growth.

6. That Cabinet agrees that the decision to award contracts for local bus services and Digital Demand Responsive Transport services is delegated to the Director, Highways and Transport, following discussion with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Infrastructure and Growth, and the Council's Section 151 Officer.

Reasons for Decisions:

The public consultation has helped shape the bus service changes proposed in **Annex B**. These changes are necessary to ensure the network is financially sustainable and has responded to changed travel patterns, particularly in areas where passenger numbers are unlikely to ever recover to pre-pandemic levels. The financial review of bus services also meets the Department for Transport's (DfT) requirement for accessing the extension of Covid bus recovery funding. The Council is committed to supporting local bus services and has increased revenue support for service delivery and capital investment to improve their operational effectiveness and efficiency.

The public consultation has also helped shape our proposed investment in bus infrastructure. It demonstrated that resident support for investment in buses is high, showing that people value bus services and that targeting investment will aid patronage growth.

The Council's previous BSIP, published in 2021, set out a desire to expand our DDRT offer, learning from the successful Mole Valley Connect scheme funded from the DfT's Rural Mobility Fund. This report sets out proposals for new DDRT schemes shaped by consultation feedback, including the need to promote new schemes and the flexibility they offer residents.

All LTAs are required to review their BSIPs annually. The DfT agreed that the Council's BSIP refresh could be undertaken once the public consultation was complete, enabling the views and suggestions of residents and stakeholders to be included in the BSIP review. This report sets out the BSIP refresh process, with a submission to date at the end of May 2023.

Following the Future Bus Network Review and the consideration of consultation responses, coupled with ongoing dialogue with bus operators, the Council needs to tender the services proposed for change, along with retender of a number of contracts that were extended during the pandemic. New contracts will be awarded following a procurement process in line with the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Procurement and Contracts Standing Orders.

(The decisions on this item can be called- in by the Communities, Highways and Environment Select Committee)

- **STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22 WITH 2022/23 MID YEAR UPDATE** (Item 16)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet endorses the Annual Report of the Strategic Investment Board.

Reasons for Decisions:

- To inform the Council about the activities of the Strategic Investment

Board

- The Strategic Investment Board has been established in accordance with best practice governance to ensure effective oversight and alignment with the strategic objectives and values of the Council.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee)

- **YOUR FUND SURREY- CF118 MASTER PARK COMMUNITY PAVILION** (Item 17)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet agrees to fund Master Park Pavilion Charity for the full amount requested of £1,860,000 towards the creation of the Master Park Community Pavilion.
2. That Cabinet recommends the applicant provides evidence to confirm full funding is in place before funding is released.

Reasons for Decisions:

This application has been the subject of a rigorous assessment process and officers consider the project meets the aims and published criteria of the Fund and to satisfy the requirements to award funding.

The new pavilion will create a new hub in the centre of the busy town, providing opportunities and facilities for the whole community.

(The decisions on this item can be called -in by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee)

- **2022/23 MONTH 10 (JANUARY) FINANCIAL REPORT & 2023/24 FEES AND CHARGES REVIEW** (Item 18)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes the Council's forecast revenue and capital budget positions for the year, including the use of the contingency budget and the commitment to continue to develop Directorate budget recovery plans.
2. That Cabinet approves the transfer of the closing surplus revenue and capital balances of the Mead Infant School to its successor academy (revenue surplus £85,963.92 and capital surplus £3,789.76) (Paragraph 12 - 13)
3. That Cabinet notes the summary of the Fees & Charges review (paragraph 14 - 23 and Annex 2)
4. That Cabinet approves the new charges and increases to existing Fees & Charges that are more than budget setting guidance (paragraph 22 and Annex 3)

Reasons 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. It also outlines Cabinet requirement to approve the transfer of balanced for forced academy conversions and the Financial Regulations setting out when Cabinet approval is required for Fees and Charges price increases.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee)

- **SEND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 DELIVERY** (Item 20)

RESOLVED:

See Minute 37/23.

Reasons for Decisions:

See Minute 37/23.

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

- **RE-MODELLING THE STRATEGIC SHORT BREAKS OFFER FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR AUTISM** (Item 21)

RESOLVED:

See Exempt Minute [E-03-23]

Reasons for Decisions:

See Exempt Minute [E-03-23]

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Adults and Health Select Committee)

- **STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22 WITH 2022/23 MID YEAR UPDATE** (Item 22)

RESOLVED:

See Minute 43/23.

Reasons for Decisions:

See Minute 43/23.

(The decisions on this item can be called-in by the Resources and Performance Select Committee)

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES – CONTACT LIST

Senior Manager – Regulatory & Appeals
Sarah Quinn – 07581 337391
sarah.quinn@surreycc.gov.uk

Regulatory Business Manager
Andre Ferreira – 07816096705
andre.ferreira@surreycc.gov.uk

Committee Manager
Angela Guest – x419075
angela.guest@surreycc.gov.uk

Committee Manager
Huma Younis – 07866899016
huma.younis@surreycc.gov.uk

Committee Manager
Amelia Christopher – 07929725663
amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk

Committee Manager
Joss Butler – x419702
joss.butler@surreycc.gov.uk

Scrutiny Business Manager
Ross Pike – x417368
ross.pike@surreycc.gov.uk

Scrutiny Officer
Kunwar Khan
kunwar.khan@surreycc.gov.uk

Scrutiny Officer
Omid Nouri
omid.nouri@surreycc.gov.uk

Scrutiny Officer
Julie Armstrong
julie.armstrong@surreycc.gov.uk