

CABINET DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 27 February 2024 and will take effect on 07/03/2024 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered.

CALL-IN DEADLINE: 06/03/2024

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, 27 February 2024 considered the following matters and resolved:

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

Apologies were received from Maureen Attewell and Jordan Beech.

- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 30 JANUARY 2024** (Item 2)

These were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

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

There were none.

- **PROCEDURAL MATTERS** (Item 4)

- **Members' Questions** (Item 4a)

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

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

There were three 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 AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL** (Item 5)

There were none.

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

There were no decisions to note.

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

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member of the Month update be noted.

- **SECURING A COUNTY DEAL FOR SURREY** (Item 8)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet note the County Deal Draft Framework Agreement proposed by DLUHC as summarised in the Annex 1 of the report.
2. That Cabinet endorse officers progressing discussions and negotiations with Government to agree a draft agreement with DLUHC based on this offer.
3. That Cabinet approve the proposals to continue to engage stakeholders as part of agreeing a Draft Agreement and ahead of securing a final County Deal with government.
4. That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Customers, Digital and Transformation, in consultation with the Leader and Interim Chief Executive, to finalise the Draft Agreement with DLUHC.
5. That Cabinet approve the proposal to bring a full report on the County Deal, including details of the secondary legislation required to devolve and confer functions to the Council, to a full Council meeting, at the earliest opportunity.

Reasons or Decisions:

The government's Levelling Up white paper and subsequent Levelling Up and Regeneration Act present an opportunity for the council to pursue a County Deal for Surrey that will bring new powers, freedoms and

flexibilities, better enabling the council to deliver for residents against the 2030 Community Vision, the council's four strategic priorities set out in the Organisation Strategy 2023 - 2028 (Growing a Sustainable Economy; Tackling Health Inequality; Enabling a Greener Future; and Empowering Communities), and work towards the overarching ambition of No One Left Behind.

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

- **PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SURREY (LEP INTEGRATION)** (Item 9)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet approves the council becoming an "Accountable Body" from 1 April 2024 for the purposes of collaborating with government on an integration plan and assurance for delivery of core LEP functions and government programmes across Surrey.
2. That Cabinet notes that from 1st April 2024 SCC will be recognised by Government as the lead for strategic economic planning and the delivery of economic growth functions in Surrey that were previously undertaken by LEPs. The new functions and responsibilities will be integrated within SCC's existing economic growth function.
3. That Cabinet notes the progress made in transitioning LEP functions to the County Council from April 2024, through engagement with stakeholders, including relevant upper tier local authorities, Enterprise M3 LEP and Coast to Capital LEP.
4. That Cabinet delegates authority for concluding the work of transitioning LEP functions to the County Council from April 2024 to the Interim Executive Director for Customers and Communities and the council's Section 151 Officer, in conjunction with the Executive Director for Environment, Infrastructure and Growth, and in consultation with the Cabinet member for Environment, Infrastructure and Growth.

Reasons for Decisions:

To bring the significant strategic decision of the government and its consequent implications and opportunities to the attention of Cabinet and to ensure a smooth and effective approach to the transfer and integration of LEP functions for Surrey into the County Council.

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

- **PROVISION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN THE PLANNING AREA OF REIGATE** (Item 10)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet pursue option 2, establishing a working group to explore reorganisation for the Reigate Primary Planning Area.
2. That Cabinet agree the timescales and scope for the working group as outlined in **Annex 1**.
3. That Cabinet agree to delegate authority to the Director of Land & Property in conjunction with the Executive Director of Children Families and Lifelong Learning to commission initial desk-based viability studies up to £0.6m.
4. That Cabinet pursue the determination of the live planning application (Reference RE22/01796CON) for option 1, to establish if this is a viable option.

Reasons for Decisions:

As the majority of respondents to the consultation selected option 2, the recommendations are to continue to look for alternative solutions and pursue option 2 by establishing a working group to explore re-organisation options as set out in recommendation 1.

It has not been possible to identify any potentially viable sites other than Woodhatch Place, or to identify a solution for Reigate Priory Junior School (RPJS) to remain a 600-place junior school on the current site for the reasons set out in **Annex 2 of this report**. The working group will look at re-organisation options to provide sufficient school places in the area. Possibilities could include the Woodhatch site and the existing school sites, including the potential for a smaller school at Priority Park and other potential sites. The evaluation criteria are set out at Annex 1, this includes the need for any solution under Option 2 to be comparable in cost to Option 1. Cabinet Agreement for the timescales and scope of the working Group is sought under recommendation 2. More information about the role, functions and scope of the working group and timescales is available in **Annex 1: Working Group Terms of Reference**.

Surrey County Council would not ordinarily recommend a closure of a school that provides quality education and continues to meet the needs of local pupils, however, school closure or school closure as part of an amalgamation may be considered by the working group, if an alternative cannot be found, or if a school no longer meets the needs of children.

Recommendation 3 ensures relevant delegated authority to ensure sufficient feasibility is completed for any solution identified by the working group. There may be feasibility studies across multiple schools as part of the agreed option. The original site search for a 5FE (5 Form Entry) Junior school may be refreshed alongside any additional site search as part of option 2.

There is no guarantee of finding viable options and this process will further delay a secure future for RPJS. To ensure a continuity of sufficient school places for children and young people in Reigate, it would be sensible and reasonable that, as set out in Recommendation 4, Surrey County Council pursues determination of the live planning application to relocate Reigate Priory Junior School to Woodhatch Place, (Ref RE22/01796CON), by submitting additional information to address the issues identified by the Planning and Regulatory Committee when referring it back to the applicants. This is in order to fully understand if this option is a viable solution.

Recommendation 4 relates only to proceeding to determination of the planning permission. This is to keep all possible options open for consideration at this time and as a back-up if an alternative cannot be identified or if a more urgent need arises to re-locate RPJS from the current site. This is because of the uncertainties in making all the changes which may be necessary under option 2 and doing so within a reasonable time frame.

A further decision will be required by Cabinet later in 2024 to determine how to proceed, taking into consideration the recommendations of the working group and the outcome of the planning application.

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

- **EARLY YEARS EXPANSION OF ENTITLEMENTS AND SCHOOLS WRAPAROUND PROVISION (Item 11)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes the new funded entitlements for parents and the LA statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of Early Years and Wraparound provision and the intended response to meet that obligation.
2. That Cabinet notes the expansion of teams within Children, Families and Lifelong Learning required in order to manage the implementation of the new entitlements and the strategic approach adopted to assure alignment with council priorities.
3. That Cabinet notes the intended grants and funding distribution process designed to effectively support schools and settings to deliver the entitlement.

Reasons for Decisions:

This is a new statutory duty that we are required to deliver and is fully funded by the Department for Education (DfE).

(The decisions on this item can be called in by the Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture 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 have been taken by the Service to address the findings;
2. That Cabinet considers whether any other action should be taken; and
3. That Cabinet notes that the Monitoring Officer will be bringing this report to the attention of all Members of the Council.

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.

- **SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE FIRE HOUSE AND TRAINING FACILITY (Item 13)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet approves capital funding from the pipeline to redevelop the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) fire house and training facility and design and construct a new fire house and training facility on the existing site. The capital funding required to develop the new facilities is commercially sensitive at this time and is set out in the Part 2 report.
2. That Cabinet approves procurement of appropriate supply chain partners to deliver the design, build and fit out of the new structures in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.
3. That Cabinet notes that, regarding the procurement of supply chain partners, the Executive Director for Environment, Infrastructure and Growth and the Director of Land and Property are authorised to award such contracts, up to +5% of the budgetary tolerance level and any other legal documentation required to facilitate the approvals within this report.

Reasons for Decisions:

- Essential capital investment is required to enable the redevelopment of one of the SFRS critical assets – SFRS live fire training facility.
- The existing fire house and drill towers at this facility are reaching

the end of their useful life. Parts for the ventilation system are no longer readily available due to this type of system being obsolete, requiring replacement parts to be refurbished or remade from second hand items. This has resulted in significant periods when the facility is non-operational.

- There are several significant Health and Safety (H&S) concerns including internal linings falling from the ceiling, insufficient smoke extraction and ventilation which demonstrate that the facility is no longer fit for purpose.

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

- **MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING- 2023/24 MONTH 09** (Item 14)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes the Council's forecast revenue budget (after the application of the full contingency budget) and capital budget positions for the year.
2. That Cabinet notes the implementation of spending controls in order to reduce the forecast overspend position and contain costs within the available budget.
3. That Cabinet notes the quarter end Balance Sheet Indicators as set out in Annex 2.

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.

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

- **SFRS FIRE HOUSE AND TRAINING FACILITY** (Item 16)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet approves capital funding of [E-02-24] from the pipeline to redevelop the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) fire house and training facility and design and construct a new fire house and training facility on the existing site.
2. Approves procurement of appropriate supply chain partners to deliver the design, build and fit out of the new structures in accordance with Surrey County Council's (the Council) Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.
3. Notes that, regarding the procurement of supply chain partners, the Executive Director for Environment, Infrastructure and Growth and the Director of Land and Property are authorised to award such

contracts, up to +5% of the budgetary tolerance level and any other legal documentation required to facilitate the approvals within this report.

Reasons for Decisions:

See Minute 33/24

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