

CABINET DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday, 17 December 2024 and will take effect on 28/12/2024 unless the call-in procedure has been triggered.

CALL-IN DEADLINE: 27/12/2024.

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, 17 December 2024 considered the following matters and resolved:

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

There were no apologies.

- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 26 NOVEMBER 2024** (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 were none.

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

There was one public question. A response from the Cabinet was published in the supplementary 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)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Scrutiny of the 2025/26 Draft Budget And Medium-Term Financial Strategy To 2029/30 report be noted.

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

RESOLVED:

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

- **SURREY SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2025-26 (Item 8)**

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes and supports the application to the Secretary of State to transfer 1.0% (which was equivalent to £8.4m in 2024/25) from the schools' block DSG to the High Needs block DSG, as set out in the safety valve agreement with the Department for Education (DFE).
2. That the Schools Forum's formula recommendations for schools as set out in Annex 3, is approved by Cabinet; and the decisions in Annex 4 implemented, subject to any changes required to comply with the DfE provisional schools funding settlement announced on 28 November 2024. The proposals agreed by the Schools Forum for additional funding for mainstream schools with disproportionately high incidence of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are agreed.
3. That the introduction of additional funding for primary schools with temporary falls in rolls is supported by Cabinet as agreed by the Schools Forum.
4. That the principles of the early years funding formula, supported by the Schools Forum, is approved by Cabinet.
5. That authority is delegated to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning in consultation with the Executive Director of Children, Families and Lifelong Learning and the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning to approve amendments to the funding rates in the schools formula and early years funding formula, as appropriate, following receipt of the DSG settlement and DfE pupil data in December 2024. This is to ensure that total allocations to schools under this formula remain affordable within the council's DSG settlement and to meet the DfE deadline of mid-January for submission of proposed school budgets to the DfE and the expected deadline for confirmation of early years funding rates,

currently expected to be 28 February 2025.

Reasons for Decisions:

To comply with DfE regulations requiring formal council approval of the local funding formula for Surrey's primary and secondary schools and to allow budgets for schools to be submitted to the DfE by the deadline of 22 January 2025 and funding rates for early years providers to be set by the required deadlines.

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

- **CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRESS ASSESSMENT 2023/4** (Item 9)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet continues to deliver against the net-zero targets as set out in the Greener Futures Climate Change Delivery Plan 2021-2025– noting the key recommended areas of focus.
2. That Cabinet approves bringing forward the development of the next 5-year Greener Future Climate Change Delivery Plan (2026-31), for Cabinet consideration in 2025.

Reasons for Decisions:

The Delivery Plan commits to undertaking an annual assessment of progress on the plan for Cabinet. Whilst it has not changed, the progress report identifies where the council and its partners need to focus attention to address the most challenging areas and ensure the Delivery Plan is as impactful and cost effective as possible and within the resources available. The Delivery Plan is also an opportunity to identify those areas where Surrey County Council and its partners need to lobby Government. The current Delivery Plan runs up to 2025/6 which triggers a substantial review of the programme and preparation of a new Delivery Plan, setting out the actions to be delivered over the next 5 years on the council's net-zero journey.

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

- **ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN FY2025/26** (Item 10)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet gives Approval to Procure for the projects listed in Annex 1 – “Annual Procurement Forward Plan for FY2025 26” in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.
2. That Cabinet agrees that where the first ranked tender for any projects listed in Annex 1 is within the +5% budgetary tolerance

level, the relevant Executive Director, Director, or Head of Service (as appropriate) is authorised to award such contracts.

3. That Cabinet agrees the procurement activity that will be returned to Cabinet prior to going out to market (Annex 1, column R).
4. That Cabinet notes appropriate projects will be presented to Cabinet or the Strategic Investment Board for approval of the business case.
5. That Cabinet notes projects identified in Annex 2 “Annual Procurement Forward Plan for FY 2026/27 Pipeline” are for information only.

Reasons for Decisions:

- To comply with the Procurement and Contract Standing Orders agreed by Council in May 2019 and further revised in March 2023.
- To provide Cabinet with strategic oversight of planned procurement projects for FY2025/26.
- To ensure Cabinet oversight is focussed on the most significant procurements.
- To avoid the need to submit multiple individual requests for Approval to Procure as well as individual contract award approvals for work taking place in FY2025/26.
- To inform Cabinet of projects identified for FY2026/27.

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

- **SURREY ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP AND JOINT WASTE SOLUTIONS** (Item 11)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet agrees the principle of SCC bringing back the Functions and associated funding to SCC and to delegate authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Property & Growth in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Resources and the Director of Law and Governance to take such actions and decisions as are necessary to facilitate the manner and mechanisms through which this decision can be most suitably implemented.

Reasons for Decisions:

- Surrey County Council (‘SCC’) transferred several of its activities (“Functions”), to encourage better recycling, to the JWS team in 2018 through an Inter Authority Agreement. As part of the process, six full time employees of SCC staff were TUPE transferred to SHBC to undertake the Functions for JWS.
- JWS is the partnership organisation which manages a joint waste collection contract with Amey on behalf of Surrey Heath, Elmbridge,

Mole Valley and Woking Councils. Surrey Heath Borough Council (“SHBC”) hosts JWS and provides line management and back-office functions (e.g. HR).

- The Functions transferred include activities to encourage better recycling by Surrey residents: communications and website hosting; data gathering and interpretation; project administration and governance; processing of some payments; and encouragement of food waste collections.
- The wider Surrey Environment Partnership (“SEP”) forum includes all eleven District and Boroughs (‘D&Bs’) as the Waste Collection Authorities (“WCA”) for Surrey, and the group comes together with SCC at a number of meetings over the year. These meetings are part of the Functions and will be organised by SCC going forward if this recommendation is approved.
- The current arrangement is no longer felt suitable to meet the strategic needs of SCC in reducing its exposure to policy changes. Policy measures will have a disproportionate impact on SCC as the Waste Disposal Authority (“WDA”) as set out in paragraph **Error! Reference source not found.** below. To mitigate these, SCC needs to: engage with the public (communications, recycling behaviour); have access to data; and to have financial control on project expenditure.
- SCC clearly supports the concept of partnership with the D&Bs and would like to see a closer and more effective relationship with all 11 Councils. However, SCC feels that as long as the Functions and SEP administration remains subsumed within JWS (and hosted by Surrey Heath BC) then the wider strategic needs of the SCC will not be met.
- The recommendation to SCC members is to relocate the Functions back into SCC, noting that this could involve the transfer of affected staff under TUPE transfers and some reorganisation of the service. Officers believe this would allow JWS to focus on its needs, and for SCC to mitigate its exposure to potentially very costly waste policy changes.

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

- **2024/25 MONTH 7 (OCTOBER) FINANCIAL REPORT** (Item 12)

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet notes the Council’s forecast revenue budget and capital

budget positions for the year.

Reasons for Decisions:

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

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

- **ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN FY2025/26** (Item 14)

RESOLVED:

See Minute 190/24.

Reasons for Decisions:

See Minute 190/24.

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

- **SURREY ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP AND JOINT WASTE SOLUTIONS** (Item 15)

RESOLVED:

See Minute 191/24.

Reasons for Decisions:

See Minute 191/24.

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

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