

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

JULY 2014

(i) Provision of User Led Organisations (ULO) hubs in Surrey (part 1)

Details of decision

It was agreed that:

1. The information relating to the commissioning process, as set out in this report, be noted; and
2. The award of two grants to Surrey Disabled People's Partnership (SDPP) and Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC) for eighteen months be agreed. The Grant Agreements would be awarded from 1 October 2014.
3. That the design and layout of existing and future Hubs have a uniformity of design and appearance so as to present a common face to the residents of Surrey.

Reasons for decision

One of the strategic aims of the County Council and a major requirement of the forthcoming Care Act is to provide universal information and advice. This will help people to make informed choices about accessing available care, support and other services, to enable them to have equality of access and opportunity and to live independently in the community. User Led Hubs support the delivery of this, across Surrey by providing access to advice and information to help people live independent lives.

There is a further expectation from Government that Local Authorities will develop and work in partnership with User Led Organisations (ULOs).

It is advantageous and a natural conclusion to combine the above expectations from Government and award the grants to Surrey based ULOs to manage the Hubs to provide information and advice. Both recommended providers are well established Surrey based ULOs.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care – 9 July 2014)

(ii) Provision of User Led Organisations (ULO) Hubs in Surrey (part 2)

Details of decision

It was agreed that:

1. the award of a grant to Surrey Disabled People's Partnership (SDPP) to cover the revenue costs for 4 operational Hubs, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.

2. the award of a grant to Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC) to cover the revenue costs for 4 operational Hubs, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.
3. the award of a grant for the three remaining Hubs – Guildford, Spelthorne and Tandridge be approved.
4. both grants to be awarded from 1 October 2014 until 31 March 2016. (The value of the Hubs will be reviewed after that period to ensure that outcomes have been achieved. All the services will be monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis as outlined in paragraph 14 of the Part 1 report and the recommendations of the Section 151 Officer)
5. a capital budget for the set up costs for new hubs, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved,. (This will cover all set up costs including building leases, IT equipment, telecom connections and building works)
6. the costs of two part-time Volunteer Development Workers, to cover sickness and leave and to develop the 'pop up model', be approved.

Reasons for decision

On award of this grant SDPP will be responsible for the operation of 4 Hubs in the West part of the County: Woking, Godalming, Addlestone and Camberley. Once premises are identified SDPP will also operate Spelthorne and Guildford Hubs. Any unspent funds will be returned to SCC at the end of each financial year.

On award of this grant SILC will be responsible for the operation of 4 Hubs in the East part of the County: Epsom, Redhill, Dorking and Walton. Once premises are identified, SILC will also operate the Tandridge Hub. Any unspent funds will be returned to SCC at the end of each financial year.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care – 9 July 2014)

(iii) Request to adopt a new road at Purbeck Close, Merstham

Details of decision

That, under the Scheme of Delegation and in line with Surrey County Council's current policy, the adoption of new highway between Fieldoaks Way and Purbeck Close be approved as replacement for the stopping up of the existing highway at Purbeck Close, in order to enable development of 40 mixed tenure residential dwellings as set out in Annex 1 of the submitted report.

Reasons for decision

The request set out in Annex 1 of the submitted agenda meets Surrey County Council's current policy on road adoption.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding Recovery – 17 July 2014)

(iv) Pound Farm, Old Lane, Martyrs Green

Details of decision

It was agreed that an application be made to the Magistrates' Court for an order stopping up the land identified on the plan (Annex 1 to the submitted report) as highway, in accordance with the provisions of Section 116 and 117 of the Highways Act 1980 and subject to the conditions of the County Council's approved policy on stopping up applications.

Reasons for decision

The land in question is deemed surplus to highway requirements and on completion of a successful application the County Council would be relinquished from any future maintenance liability.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding Recovery – 17 July 2014)

(v) Minnickfold Cottage, Anstie Lane, Coldharbour

Details of decision

It was agreed that an application be made to the Magistrates' Court for an order stopping up the land identified on the plan (Annex 1 to the submitted report) as highway, in accordance with the provisions of Section 116 and 117 of the Highways Act 1980 and subject to the conditions of the County Council's approved policy on stopping up applications.

Reasons for decision

The land in question is deemed surplus to highway requirements and on completion of a successful application the County Council would be relinquished from any future maintenance liability.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding Recovery – 17 July 2014)

(vi) Leatherhead Trinity Primary School**Details of decision**

1. That the revised business case for the project at Leatherhead Trinity Primary School, as set out in the submitted report, be approved.
2. That the arrangements by which a variation of up to 10% of the total value may be agreed by the Strategic Director for Business Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, the Cabinet Member for Business Services and the Leader of the Council, be approved, with the proviso that if the actual scheme costs exceed the available funding, then spends elsewhere in the capital programme will be utilised to ensure the programme overall remains within the approved budget.

Reasons for decision

The proposal delivers and supports the Authority's statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the population in the Leatherhead area.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning (taken of behalf of the Cabinet Member for Business Services) – 17 July 2014)

(vii) Greville Primary School, Ashtead – petition**Details of decision**

That the response to the petition, attached as Appendix 1, be approved.

Reasons for decision

To respond to the petition.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(viii) Dovers Green Playgroup, Reigate - petition**Details of decision**

That the response to the petition, attached as Appendix 2, be approved.

Reasons for decision

To respond to the petition.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(ix) Greville Primary School, Ashtead**Details of decision**

That the publication of Statutory Notices stating the Council's intent to expand the Greville Primary School, subject to satisfactory consideration and, where appropriate, mitigation of the concerns raised in the consultation, be approved.

Reasons for decision

This action is reflective of an increasing demand for school places in the Ashtead area, resulting from both an increase in birth rate and new house building.

The provision of places both meets the increased demographic pressures in the area and will allow the Council to admit those people who name the school as their preferred option, meeting the wider statutory duty to offer all applicants a school place.

A programme of building works will provide a modern teaching environment.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(x) St Paul's CofE Infant School and Sure Start Children's Centre, Tongham**Details of decision**

That, a grant to Nurturing Childcare Limited of £140,000 to facilitate capital investment on the site of St Paul's Church of England Infant School and Sure Start Children's Centre so that two year old children can access the free early education entitlement, be approved.

Reasons for decision

The Department of Education requires all local authorities in England to secure free early education places for two year old children who meet the eligibility criteria based on household income. This report will ensure that plans are in place to make provision for such places in the Tongham area of Surrey where there is a current shortfall in provision.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(xi) Spinney Children's Centre, Guildford**Details of decision**

That, the action to move forward with the plans for capital investment in the Spinney Children's Centre so that two year old children can access the free early education entitlement be approved.

Reasons for decision

The Department of Education requires all local authorities in England to secure free early education places for two year old children who meet the eligibility criteria based on household income. This report will ensure that plans are in place to make provision for such places in the Westborough area of Guildford in Surrey where there is a current shortfall in provision.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(xii) Cranmere Primary School, Esher

Details of decision

1. That the school be enlarged by two forms of entry (from its original capacity of one form of entry to three forms) plus the addition of a new twenty-six place nursery.
2. That the school be rebuilt on the Grove Farm site, which is land owned by Surrey County Council adjacent to the current Cranmere school.
3. That this expansion be effective from 1 September 2016, as the new school is unlikely to be ready for new admissions by September 2015.

Reasons for decision

Cranmere Primary is a popular and successful school delivering high quality education. It was rated by OFSTED, at its last inspection (Nov 2011), as good with some outstanding features. The school has taken additional (bulge) reception classes every year since September 2009. The provision of additional places at a new Cranmere with greater capacity meets the Government's policy position to expand successful schools in order to meet parental preferences.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(xiii) Approval of Schools' Deficits 2014/15

Details of decision

1. That the level of balances held by Surrey maintained schools be noted.
2. That the one-year licensed deficit request from Gosden House be approved.

Reasons for decision

Approval of a licensed deficit will ensure the school is operating within the County's Scheme for Financing Schools and will set the parameters within which a recovery plan can be developed.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

(xiv) In Year Fair Access Protocol**Details of decision**

That the proposed Primary and Secondary Fair Access Protocols for 2014/15 be approved.

Reasons for decision

- The local authority is required to have a Protocol in place that all schools must participate in.
- The proposed Protocols meet the requirements of the School Admissions Code.
- Schools have been involved in the review.
- The Protocol will ensure that children who are out of school can be placed in school quickly.
- The Protocol will ensure that no school is expected to admit more than their fair share of children with challenging behaviour or children previously excluded from other schools.

(Decision of Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning – 17 July 2014)

CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE TO PETITION

'We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council not to approve the proposed expansion at the Greville Primary School'

Presented by Ms Claire Pealling

Further details of petition:

'We disagree with the proposal of expanding the Greville school for a variety of reasons, including the new school building will over look houses which back on to the school, the school cannot cater for the parents who drive due to no parking causing dangerous situations which will on influx if the plan goes ahead. How is it right for a four year old to start a school with 700 pupils, this is a village school for primary school children. There are concerns over the quality of teaching the school will be able to provide following the expansion.'

RESPONSE:

Thank you for your petition and your continued interest in Schooling in the Ashted area.

As I am sure you are aware, Surrey is experiencing a significant increase in the demand for school places and very few communities have been unaffected by this. As a Council, we are undertaking a major capital programme that is providing 16,000 additional school places up to 2019. These are desperately required to ensure that all Surrey children receive a high quality education. It is however equally important that we continue to listen to our communities where we are making these changes to ensure that the additional school places are provided in a sustainable way.

You will notice that the proposed expansion of the Greville Primary School is being raised as a substantive agenda item at this meeting and I do not intend to prejudice the outcome of that in the response to this petition. However, I would like to highlight that this is the first process in decision making. I am charged with determining whether to issue Statutory Notices and if notices are published then there is a further opportunity to comment on the proposal. I would review all comments before determining the Notice at my Cabinet Member meeting.

It is also clearly important that all planning concerns are also considered, and we recognise that access to the site is of primary concern in this proposal. The second stage of consultation will follow the planning process and will consider in more detail the issues that you have raised. The planning application will also be considered in detail by transport officers with view to the specific transport issues you mentioned. At this stage the proposal has not been formally put forward as a planning application. The planning process for this proposal will be in two stages, each will follow the statutory process for planning applications, which will mean that local residents will be informed and able to pass comment. Again these comments will be considered by the Planning and Regulatory Committee of Surrey County Council when determining the application.

The proposal could not be achieved without planning permission and the determination of Statutory Notices and, irrespective of the outcome today, I would not be confident in finally determining the proposal without an understanding that issues raised in the consultation have been considered in the appropriate place.

Mrs Linda Kemeny
Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning
17 July 2014

CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE TO PETITION

'We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to help save Dovers Green Playgroup'

Presented by Ms Louise Gannon

Further Details of petition:

'Dovers Green playgroup is a non-profit nursery and has been running for the past 37 years. providing child care for the local community. For the last 14 years it has been sited at Dovers Green School Reigate.

Surrey County Council has give the nursery until 6 December to vacate the site [not even halfway through a 10yr lease] unless an alternative site can be found and made fit for purpose by this date will be forced to close resulting in 40 children not having nursery placements and highly unlikely to secure 1 and 6 members of staff without work.'

RESPONSE

Surrey County Council acknowledges the concerns of parents and members of the local community on the future of Dovers Green Playgroup. Surrey County Council also acknowledges that the Playgroup is an independently run setting that rents out a building on the Dovers Green School site. This has been a difficult and challenging situation to manage and one that has arisen partly as a result of an Ofsted investigation of an incident at the playgroup and partly due to the school's governing body considering the future of the school and all the provision on its site. While the outcome of the incident was "unfounded" the current owner found the whole matter very distressing and decided that she no longer wanted to continue to own and manage the playgroup. At this time, the governors at Dovers Green School became concerned about the impact that the investigation was having within the community and within the school. In consultation with the county council, the governing body took the view that the playgroup is located in an outdated portakabin which does not reflect the high standard of other facilities on the school site. Therefore, the governing body took the opportunity to plan for the future and gave notice on the lease, which was issued by Surrey County Council. The governing body acknowledged it was a difficult decision, but believed it to be the best way to meet the needs of an expanding school and for the local community.

Surrey County Council recognises that it has a duty to secure sufficient early education and childcare places and the Early Years and Childcare Service (EYCS) is working hard to secure alternative provision. Staff from EYCS are liaising with the existing owner on what actions need to be taken to close or transfer the business. EYCS staff are also in contact with other members of staff at Dovers Green Playgroup to setup an alternative service elsewhere in the local community. Visits have been made to potential sites and their viability as a suitable alternative location is being looked into further. EYCS is also looking at other potential sites. EYCS is regularly faced with situations where childcare provision is closing or having to move from existing places,

and has secured alternative provision, often within shorter timescales. EYCS is also liaising with the school on the actions that are being taken.

EYCS can be a point of contact so that a representative of local parents can be kept informed of progress.

As Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, I would like to reassure parents and local members of the community that have signed the petition, that Surrey County Council is doing all it can to secure an alternative location for the Dovers Green Playgroup.

Mrs Linda Kemeny
Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning
17 July 2014

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