

County Council Meeting – 6 December 2016

REPORT OF THE CABINET

The Cabinet met on 18 October and 22 November 2016.

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 18 October 2016 meeting are included within the agenda. The minutes of the 22 November 2016 meeting will be circulated separately. 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 5 December 2016).

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

RECOMMENDATION ON POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

A SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN

1. The Cabinet at its meeting on 22 November 2016 considered the report on the School Organisation Plan 2016/17 – 2025/26. The recommendations and reasons for recommendations considered by Cabinet are attached at Appendix 1. The report submitted to Cabinet together with the School Organisation Plan is attached as Appendix 2.
2. **The Cabinet RECOMMENDED THAT:**
 1. The School Organisation Plan 2016/17 – 2025/26 be approved.
 2. That at present the funding for the increased number of school places within this Plan has not been fully identified.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

B SMARTER WORKING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: POLICY STATEMENT AND ACTION PLAN

1. In December 2015 a motion was carried by the Council to support action in reducing the Council's emissions and building resilience to a changing climate. In February 2016, the Council signed up to the LGA's Climate Local Initiative, including a commitment to produce an action plan outlining our approach.
2. An environment policy statement and action plan have been developed to set out the Council's approach to environmental sustainability, including responding to climate change. The activities of the County Council have many interfaces with the environment, ranging from risks posed by the environment, to the

potential for enhancing the local environment and managing environmental impacts and resource consumption. These issues are both direct, such as service provision and estate management and indirect through the Council's influence over the £37.5 billion of economic activity in Surrey and the Council's role in the lives of 1.15 million residents.

3. Implementing the policy and associated action plan will:
 - Provide a basis for engagement with our suppliers when seeking their support for our objectives and maximising value from our contracts
 - Increase value for money by being joined up in our decision making
 - Provide support to external funding bids by publishing the Council's overall commitment to environmental sustainability
 - Support a 'one team' approach for improved outcomes in relation to corporate priorities for the economy and resident wellbeing.
4. **The Cabinet AGREED:**
 1. That the proposed 'Smarter Working for the Environment' Policy Statement, attached as Annex 1, and the associated Action Plan, attached as Annex 2, be approved.
 2. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director for Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, to authorise minor future revisions to the policy and action plan.

C SUB NATIONAL TRANSPORT BODY

1. The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act makes provision for the establishment and constitution of a Sub National Transport Body (SNTB) for any area in England (outside of Greater London). The establishment of an SNTB provides an opportunity to develop a strong strategic partnership and a Transport Strategy for a region. The Transport Strategy would set out the SNTB's proposals for the promotion and encouragement of safe, sustainable, integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services to and from the area of the SNTB.
2. The South East 7 authorities - including Surrey County Council (SCC) - have been working together to develop the proposition that would see Government, South East Transport Authorities and/or Combined Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) working together with Highways England, Network Rail and port, airport and bus operators in one body. Under the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act SNTBs may expect strategic transport providers to take account of its priorities.
3. The SNTB would be the main mechanism to influence and prioritise investment by the major national transport agencies including Highways England and Network Rail in a way that has not been available to SCC before. The specific focus would be for the delivery of major strategic transport infrastructure. It would complement the work of the LEPs and support delivery of Local Plans.

4. Establishing the SNTB in shadow form, would demonstrate commitment by the constituent Authorities to working collaboratively and provide reassurance to Government about the strength of the partnership.
5. It would specifically enable SCC to influence the prioritisation of investment by the major national transport agencies such as Highways England and Network Rail in a way that has not been possible in the past.
6. The SNTB would address some of the barriers to growth of the economy that have been held back by transport infrastructure shortcomings, notably strategic infrastructure, that is the responsibility of Network Rail and Highways England. The SNTB would enable SCC to more directly influence the priorities and programmes of these agencies, so helping to secure delivery of longstanding transport infrastructure ambitions.
7. **The Cabinet AGREED that:**
 1. Surrey County Council should join a shadow Sub National Transport Body for the South East, known as Transport for the South East (TfSE).
 2. Authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council to agree the shadow arrangements on behalf of Surrey County Council, including the shadow constitution.
 3. Following an appropriate period of time reviewing the operation of the shadow arrangements and prior to entering into a formal SNTB, a report be received.
 - 4 Funding of £20,000 be provided, to develop the constitutional arrangements and the Transport Strategy and to provide officer support to the Shadow Body.

Mr David Hodge, Leader of the Council
25 November 2016

CABINET IS ASKED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL:

A. SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN

1. That the School Organisation Plan 2016/17 – 2025/26 be approved.
2. That at present the funding for the increased number of school places within this Plan has not been fully identified.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The School Organisation Plan is a key document used by schools and education stakeholders in considering long term plans. It is necessary to review the Plan to ensure that the best and most up to date information is published for use in this planning process.