

County Council Meeting – 7 February 2017

REPORT OF THE CABINET

The Cabinet met on 13 December 2016 and 31 January 2017. The report from the meeting held on 31 January 2017 will be circulated following that meeting.

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 13 December 2016 meeting are included within the agenda. The minutes of the 31 January 2017 meeting will be submitted to the next County Council meeting. 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 6 February 2017).

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.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

A ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SURREY'S COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS AND CO-ORDINATED SCHEMES THAT WILL APPLY TO ALL SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

1. Each year, Surrey County Council is responsible for processing approximately 29,000 applications for a school place from Surrey residents and coordinates offers for over 350 schools. The admission arrangements for each school determine which children can be offered a place and Surrey's coordinated admissions scheme ensures that, as far as possible, no child receives an offer at more than one school.
2. Surrey County Council is responsible for setting the admission arrangements for its community and voluntary controlled schools and the coordinated admissions scheme. Academies, foundation, trust and voluntary aided schools are responsible for setting their own admission arrangements.
3. Following statutory consultation on Surrey's admission arrangements for September 2018, the Cabinet at its meeting on 31 January 2017 will be asked to consider the responses and make recommendations to the County Council on admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled infant, junior, primary and secondary schools, the coordinated schemes that will apply to all schools for September 2018 and Surrey's Relevant Area.

4. The recommendations and reasons for recommendations to be considered by Cabinet are attached as Appendix 1 and the recommendations arising from the Cabinet's meeting will be circulated as a supplementary paper.
5. The full report is available as part of 31 January 2017 Cabinet agenda on the County Council's website.
6. This report covers the following areas in relation to school admissions:
 - Stoughton Infant School, Guildford – Recommendation 1
 - St Andrew's CofE Infant School, Farnham - Recommendation 2
 - Walsh CofE Junior School, Ash – Recommendation 3
 - Surrey's Relevant Area – Recommendation 4
 - Admission arrangements for which no change is proposed – Recommendation 5
 - Primary and secondary coordinated admission schemes that will apply to all schools for 2018 – Recommendation 6

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

B INVESTMENT OF PROGRAMME FUNDING TO EXTEND SUPERFAST BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE TO SURREY PREMISES

1. Surrey County Council's investment in fibre broadband infrastructure over the past four years through the contract with BT has had a very significant impact on the well-being and economic prosperity of thousands of residents and businesses around the county. All of the contractual targets in the main phase of the contract have been achieved.
2. In 2012, commercial broadband providers advised that current and future fibre broadband rollout plans excluded approximately 20% of Surrey premises. Now, as a result of the County's investment into broadband infrastructure, more than 96% of all Surrey premises are able to access fibre download speeds of 15mbps or above. According to Think Broadband, Surrey County Council is currently the best connected county in England.
3. Due to the county's very successful demand stimulation campaigns, take-up of the fibre broadband services by residents and businesses is significantly higher than projected in the contract finance model resulting in additional clawback funding flowing into the contract. BT have offered Surrey County Council an advance against this clawback funding of £3.8 million, known as 'Gainshare'.
4. Achieving a very high level of broadband availability throughout the county remains a priority for the council and is something that supports the council's strategic goals.
5. The County Council's proposal is to use the Gainshare funding of £3.8 million to extend fibre infrastructure even further into Surrey to as many of the 15,300 premises as possible utilising the State Aid assured funding within the existing BT contract.

6. The Cabinet agreed:

1. That the investment of State Aid approved funds that have been generated by the contract with BT to further the deployment of Next Generation Access (NGA) broadband infrastructure within a revised Intervention Area be approved.
2. That final approval for the investment of contract funds be delegated to the Strategic Director for Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Deputy Leader.

C M3 ENTERPRISE ZONE

1. Enterprise Zones (EZs) are an initiative to support business growth, create new jobs and attract private sector investment to specific areas. Within the designated EZ boundaries newly located or expanded businesses are able to benefit from financial incentives, including reduced business rates. Business rate growth accruing from these new businesses is used for investment to support the EZ.
2. The Government announced applications for a new round of EZs in July 2015. This was aimed at ensuring that all Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas could benefit from an EZ and local authorities were encouraged to work with LEPs to develop bids.
3. Enterprise M3 LEP, in partnership with Basingstoke Borough Council, Runnymede Borough Council and East Hampshire District Council, submitted a successful application to Government for a multi-site EZ covering: Basing View in Basingstoke, Longcross Park in Chertsey, and Whitehill and Bordon's Louisburg Barracks.
4. The M3 EZ will start in April 2017 and last for 25 years. Government require a 5 year Implementation Plan setting out an investment programme to accelerate growth in the area and enable a greater business rates uplift. There is a Programme Steering Group overseeing the development of the EZ of which Surrey County Council is a voting member.
5. Over 25 years the ambition is for the EZ to deliver over 200 new businesses and over 10,000 new jobs and to generate an additional £178 million in retained business rates. The specific ambition for the Longcross site is for 49 new businesses, 5,600 new jobs and 118,000 sqm of new floor space with the development generating £8.5bn in additional Gross Value Added (GVA) over the 24 year construction and operational period.

6. The Cabinet agreed:

1. That Surrey County Council gives consent for Enterprise M3 to sign the Agreement for the M3 Enterprise Zone with Government on the basis of the principles, as set out at Annex 1 of the submitted Cabinet report.

2. That Surrey County Council and Runnymede Borough Council establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on agreeing the local initiatives for the Longcross site that are to be funded from the portion of retained business rates allocated to local authorities.
3. That Surrey County Council, along with each of the other local authorities involved, makes a one-off contribution of £20,000 to co-fund the Enterprise Zone Programme Director position and consultancy support. The contribution to be found from the Surrey Growth Fund.

D DEVELOPING A SINGLE WASTE APPROACH

1. Surrey County Council (SCC) and the Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP) have identified that significant savings and improvements for residents can be made by changing the way in which waste is managed in Surrey. A business case developed by the SWP proposes that waste services are delivered via a new partnership arrangement which is collectively owned by SCC and Surrey's district and borough councils. This would mean the benefits gained by working together would be shared across all authorities.
2. Four district and borough councils in Surrey have already made a step towards this by jointly procuring a waste collection contract. As a next step, it is proposed that this arrangement is expanded to include some of SCC's functions in order to deliver further benefit. More work will then be carried out to develop the optimum solution for other district and borough councils, and SCC's remaining waste functions.
3. The way in which waste is managed in Surrey has resulted in a complicated set of statutory and non-statutory financial transfers from the County Council to the boroughs and districts and the SWP, totalling around £11 million per year.
4. Despite the complicated structure of the current arrangements, SWP authorities have made significant progress since the partnership was formed in 2008. Waste collection arrangements have largely been aligned, the range of recycling materials able to be collected has greatly increased, and food waste collection from houses is now universal. These improvements have taken place whilst containing overall costs, maintaining high resident satisfaction levels, and have resulted in performance increases, with the overall recycling rate rising from 35% in 2007/8 to around 54% today.
5. In more recent years the rate of improvement has slowed significantly, and buy-in to new initiatives has been patchy. The SWP has identified major areas where further improvements could be made, as well as opportunities for changing the way in which waste is managed in Surrey in order to be better equipped to deliver these improvements.
6. **The Cabinet agreed:**
 1. To agree to combine SCC's Waste Disposal Authority partnership functions, as described in paragraph 28 of the submitted Cabinet report, with the functions of the four joint waste collection contract

authorities in early 2017/18, and that authority be delegated to the Strategic Director for Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, to enter into the required agreements.

2. That officers be tasked to develop a business case, which recommends the optimum solution for the transfer of the remaining core Waste Disposal Authority functions, as set out in paragraph 27 of the submitted Cabinet report, to the new partnership entity, and to return to Cabinet in June 2017 with detailed proposals.
3. That officers continue to work through the Surrey Waste Partnership to engage with district and borough councils on how all authorities can adopt a single waste approach that is mutually beneficial, whilst delivering savings and improved services for Surrey residents.
4. The proposals for financial arrangements with Waste Collection Authorities in 2017/18, as set out in paragraphs 42 and 43 of the submitted Cabinet report, be approved.
5. That officers write to all Waste Collection Authorities to give formal notice of SCC's intention to centrally manage kerbside collected recyclables, via SCC's waste disposal contractor.

E QUARTERLY REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER SPECIAL URGENCY ARRANGEMENTS: 1 OCTOBER – 31 DECEMBER 2016

The Cabinet is required under the Constitution to report to Council on a quarterly basis the details of decisions taken by the Cabinet and Cabinet Members under the special urgency arrangements set out in Article 6.05(f) of the Constitution. This occurs where a decision is required on a matter that is not contained within the Leader's Forward Plan (Notice of Decisions), nor available 5 clear days before the meeting. Where a decision on such matters could not reasonably be delayed, the agreement of the Chairman of the appropriate Scrutiny Board, or in his/her absence the Chairman of the Council, must be sought to enable the decision to be made.

There has been one decision during the last quarter, as follows:

Property Disposal

(taken by the Leader of the Council on 27 October 2016)

Reason for Urgency:

That the decision cannot be reasonably deferred because of an urgent need to conclude the disposal thereby realising a capital receipt to the County Council.

**Mr David Hodge
Leader of the Council
27 January 2017**

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SURREY'S COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOL AND COORDINATED SCHEMES THAT WILL APPLY TO ALL SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

It is recommended that Cabinet make the following recommendations to the County Council:

Recommendation 1

That a sibling link is introduced for Stoughton Infant School with Northmead Junior School for September 2018.

Reasons for Recommendation

- There was overall support for this change
- It would support families with more than one child as families with a sibling at Northmead Junior School would benefit from sibling priority at Stoughton Infant School
- This proposal is in line with a separate proposal by Northmead Junior School to introduce a reciprocal sibling link with Stoughton Infant School. This was agreed by the Governing Body of Northmead Junior School on 18 January 2017
- It would provide continuity and a clearer transition for parents, children and schools and would reduce anxiety for parents
- It would maximise the opportunity for families to keep children together or at schools with agreed links
- It is supported by Governors at Northmead Junior School and by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors of Stoughton Infant School

Recommendation 2

That the published admissions number for St Andrew's CofE Infant School in Farnham is decreased from 40 to 30 for September 2018.

Reasons for Recommendation

- It is supported by the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school
- There will still be sufficient infant places for local children if the PAN is decreased
- It will help support other local schools in maintaining pupil numbers
- It will alleviate funding and staffing issues in the school
- It will have no impact on children who are currently on roll at the school

Recommendation 3

That the published admissions number for Walsh CofE Junior School is decreased from 75 to 64 in September 2018.

Reasons for Recommendation

- It is supported by the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school
- There will still be sufficient junior places for local children if the PAN is decreased
- It will help support other local schools in maintaining pupil numbers
- It will alleviate funding, accommodation and staffing issues in the school
- It will have no impact on children who are currently on roll at the school

Recommendation 4

That Surrey's Relevant Area is agreed as set out in Enclosure 3 of the Cabinet report.

Reasons for Recommendation

- The local authority is required by law to define the Relevant Area for admissions
- The Relevant Area must be consulted upon and agreed every two years even if no changes are proposed
- Setting a Relevant Area ensures that any schools who might be affected by changes to the admission arrangements for other local schools will be made aware of those changes
- No change has been made to Surrey's Relevant Area since it was last determined in March 2015

Recommendation 5

That the aspects of Surrey's admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2018, for which no change is proposed, are agreed as set out in Enclosure 1 and its Appendices within the Cabinet report.

Reasons for Recommendation

- This will ensure stability and consistency for the majority of Surrey's parents, pupils and schools
- The arrangements enable parents to have some historical benchmark by which to make informed decisions about their school preferences
- The existing arrangements are working well
- The arrangements enable the majority of pupils to attend their nearest schools and in doing so reduces travel and supports Surrey's sustainability policies
- Changes highlighted in bold in sections 11, 19 and 21 of Enclosure 1 of the Cabinet report which have not otherwise been referenced in the report, have been made to add clarity to the admission arrangements but do not constitute a policy change
- Changes to PAN that are in Appendix 1 of Enclosure 1 of the Cabinet report are referenced in Recommendations 2 and 3

Recommendation 6

That the primary and secondary coordinated admission schemes that will apply to all schools for 2018 are agreed as set out in Enclosure 2 to the Cabinet report.

Reasons for Recommendation

- The coordinated schemes for 2018 are essentially the same as 2017 with dates updated
- Paragraph 50 of the primary and secondary schemes and paragraph 2 of the secondary scheme have been updated to provide clarity to the schemes
- The coordinated schemes will enable the County Council to meet its statutory duties regarding school admissions
- The coordinated schemes are working well.

This page is intentionally left blank