

**CABINET – 27 March 2018**

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**Members Questions**

**Question (1) Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills):**

In an article commenting on the conviction of the Parsons Green bomber Ahmed Hassan, The Times on 18th March 2018 stated that:

"When he was placed with Ron and Penny Jones, foster parents appointed MBEs for their work, they were not told about his claims of Isis links or fears that he was being radicalised....they are now said to have stopped fostering."

Can the Leader of the Council confirm that these assertions in The Times are correct? If so, was it the responsibility of the county council to inform the foster parents of Ahmed Hassan's claims of ISIS links and fears that he had been radicalised? And if so, why did this not happen?

**Reply:**

We place a high value on openness with all our foster carers, share information about any risks with them from the outset and continue to keep them informed. This was our approach with Mr and Mrs Jones and our social workers shared information in full, and also gave them regular updates. In the light of events we have looked again at our practice on this occasion, and our overall approach, and we have no concerns about gaps in information sharing

Mr and Mrs Jones continue to be registered with us as foster carers. Now the trial has concluded we will have further discussions with them about their wishes in terms of their future in fostering.

**Mr David Hodge CBE**  
**Leader of the Council**  
**27 March 2018**

**Question (2) Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills):**

The Investment Strategy, as published on the county council's website, states that: "The financial returns delivered from investment will help to ensure that we continue to deliver quality services for our residents"

Since the creation of the County Council's wholly owned property subsidiary company Halsey Garton, can the Cabinet Member set out the total amount of rental income generated from the purchase of commercial properties and how much of this has been used to support spending on council services?

**Reply:**

The investment portfolio created under the Investment Strategy consists of property investments which have been made by the Council in order to deliver economic regeneration or to provide for long-term future service use, whilst delivering an investment return. These assets provide flexibility in the estate whilst producing a net revenue. The Council has also

provided its subsidiary company, Halsey Garton Property Ltd, with equity and debt financing to facilitate the purchase of assets for their investment return. The portfolio of property investments therefore consists of assets held by the council together with those owned by the property company. The council is developing a mixed and diversified portfolio in order to manage the inherent economic and market risks.

The net income delivered by the Strategy is reported in the Annual Report provided by the Investment Board to Cabinet and to Scrutiny Committee. That report is available on the Councils website. A forecast for the current year is reported in the monthly monitoring report provided to Cabinet. The total net income delivered to date by the strategy will be used to support spending on council services in the future and is expected to be £5.3m by March 2018.

**Mr Tim Oliver**  
**Cabinet Member for Property and Business Services**  
**27 March 2018**

<b>Question (3) Jonathan Essex (Redhill East):</b>
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The NHS is holding a consultation on Accountable Care Organisations this spring. Will the Cabinet Member be responding to this consultation?

**Reply:**

Surrey County Council will work with our NHS partners in Surrey Heartlands to respond jointly to the NHS England Consultation on Accountable Care Organisations.

**Mrs Helyn Clack**  
**Cabinet Member for Health**  
**27 March 2018**