CABINET – 23 APRIL 2013

ITEM 4 - PROCEDURAL MATTERS

4(a) Members' Questions

Question (1) from Mrs Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills)

Certain roads in the Leith Hill area are set to be closed for a significant part of the day for The Vachery Triathalon on 21 July and for the Prudential Ride London event on 4 August, and then again on a rolling basis for the Tour of Britain race on 21 September. In addition, a number of sportives with a significant number of competitors are also set to ride along these roads in other organised events.

Will the Leader of the Council agree with me that it is essential that we balance the rights of local residents to enjoy living in this area with the rights of cyclists racing and enjoying our countryside and that two events two weekends apart which involve almost all day road closures and which will prevent residents leaving and entering their homes is not a fair balances between the rights of residents and the rights of cyclists? Will the Leader of the Council also agree with me that it is now very short notice to notify residents of the Vachery event and its road closures given that it is likely that weddings and summer garden parties will have been organised in the affected area for some time and that such events cannot be replanned at such short notice and will be significantly disrupted by the road closures?

Furthermore, will the Leader of the Council agree that it is appropriate that only one all day or significant part of a day road closure should be applied for in relation to any one road each year and will he commit the County Council to only apply for one all-day road closure per year for any one road for cycle road racing this year and to formulate an official policy on this basis for future years?

Question (2) from Dr Andrew Povey (Waverley Eastern Villages)

In your last Leader's statement at the full County Council meeting you stated your concern for the elderly and vulnerable in Surrey. Indeed under the strong leader model you have the ultimate responsibility for vulnerable people who are under the care of Surrey County Council. When are you going to accept this responsibility in respect of the tragic death of Gloria Foster?

4(b)Public Questions

Question (1) from Mr Paul Placitelli, Horley

With regards to SCC principle that: 'No child under 10 years of age should be accessing residential overnight short break provision except in exceptional circumstances' Department of Education's guidance states that local authorities must consider the legal implications of the eligibility criteria they apply to short breaks services and not apply any eligibility criteria mechanistically without consideration of a particular family's needs. Under equality legislation law and the potential impact the decision could have on human rights, authorities have a legal duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to disability, whilst requiring that this duty to pay due regard be demonstrated in the decision making process, assessing the potential equality impact of

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proposed changes, procedures and practices is one of the key ways in which public authorities can show due regard.

Do you accept that in the absence of a full Equality Impact Assessment, you have met your legal obligations and Department Of Education guidelines in ensuring you have considered the need and rights of a very vulnerable group of society?