

CABINET – 25 September 2018**PROCEDURAL MATTERS****Members Questions****Question (1) Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills):**

In June 2018 Mike Goodman the Surrey County Council Cabinet member for the Environment announced that a public consultation on the use of the income from the car parking charges on the County Council's countryside estate including Norbury Park would take place in the autumn of 2018. When will this public consultation start?

Reply:

The Countryside Service has begun engaging other landowners and key stakeholders across the County to develop a 25 year strategy for the County Council's Countryside Estate. The wider consultation starts in October 2018. We want to gain views on how the Estate is used and what people would like the Estate to look like in 25 years' time. The responses will help develop the strategy and guide the way income is used. Initially the income from car parking will help make the Estate financially self-sufficient and more resilient to public sector funding cuts.

Mr Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport
25 September 2018

Question (2) Chris Botten (Caterham Hill):

The County Council currently runs 10 Community Partnered Libraries across Surrey. Could the Cabinet Member state how many more Community Partnered Libraries are to be created as part of the Transformation and Surrey Vision - 2030 process, and what role Parish Councils can play in shaping the library service in the future? When will the County Council begin formal consultation as to the future of this service?

Reply:

Across the country, politicians in local authorities are having to make decisions on spending priorities and are looking for creative solutions to deliver the breadth and quality of services that residents expect – within the limits of what is affordable.

The County Council is very grateful to the volunteers of the ten communities that came forward to make the Community Partnered Library (CPL) initiative so successful and took on the responsibility for the operational running of these small local libraries – and indeed to the many volunteers who support the work of the library service throughout the county network. However, there are no plans to introduce more libraries run on the CPL model.

The transformation process will look at the role of libraries as part of a holistic plan for delivering a range of services to residents effectively and more economically in the future, using co-location wherever appropriate and practical. The outcomes of the Transformation and Surrey Vision - 2030 process are being developed and, once the proposals are known, the Council will engage with residents and key stakeholders such as parish councils on proposals for libraries. This will be towards the end of 2018.

Mrs Mary Lewis
Cabinet Member for All Age Learning
25 September 2018

Question (3) Jonathan Essex (Redhill East):

Please can the Cabinet member confirm the estimated benefits, both social and financial, for the planned transfer of the eight care homes currently contracted to Anchor Trust back in house. Please can you confirm when this decision will come to Cabinet and share publicly estimated impacts in terms of care quality and staff contracts, and estimated financial costs and any changes to performance standards.

Reply:

- Anchor Trust currently operates 17 residential care homes under a PFI contract finalised in 1998. In terms of that contract, eight of these homes revert to the Council on 31st March 2019.
- The leases on the remaining nine homes expire in 2028.
- The Cabinet meeting minutes of 22 November 2016 state 'upon expiry of both the care contract and leases for the eight refurbished homes, responsibility for the service delivery of these eight homes will transfer back 'in house'. Therefore, there is no additional Cabinet decision to be made.
- Anchor Trust has indicated that all care staff employed and located at the eight care homes transferring will be subject to TUPE regulations. Anchor Trust will consult with these staff between September 2018 and January 2019. Council managers and Human Resources will be involved in these discussions.
- Expectations regarding the quality of the services will remain the same as the Care Quality Commission (CQC) apply a common inspection criterion across all residential care settings that are registered with them. The Council is already registered with the CQC to run such services.
- The incremental costs associated with this transfer are not known at this point of the process.

Mr Mel Few
Cabinet Member for Adults
25 September 2018