

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, KINGSTON UPON THAMES, KT1 2DN ON 13 NOVEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM, THE COUNCIL BEING CONSTITUTED AS FOLLOWS:

Tony Samuels (Chairman)
Helyn Clack (Vice-Chairman)

*	Mary Angell Ayesha Azad John Beckett Mike Bennison Chris Botten Liz Bowes Natalie Bramhall Mark Brett-Warburton Ben Carasco	*	Julie Iles Naz Islam Colin Kemp Eber Kington Graham Knight Rachael I Lake Yvonna Lay David Lee Mary Lewis Andy MacLeod Ernest Mallett MBE David Mansfield Peter Martin Jan Mason Cameron McIntosh Sinead Mooney Charlotte Morley Marsha Moseley Tina Mountain Bernie Muir Mark Nuti John O'Reilly Tim Oliver Andrew Povey Wyatt Ramsdale Mrs Penny Rivers Stephen Spence Lesley Steeds Peter Szanto Keith Taylor Barbara Thomson Rose Thorn Chris Townsend Denise Turner-Stewart Richard Walsh Hazel Watson Fiona White Keith Witham Victoria Young
*	Bill Chapman Stephen Cooksey Clare Curran Nick Darby Paul Deach Graham Ellwood Jonathan Essex Robert Evans Tim Evans Mel Few Will Forster John Furey Matt Furniss Bob Gardner Mike Goodman Angela Goodwin David Goodwin Zully Grant-Duff Alison Griffiths Ken Gulati Tim Hall Kay Hammond		
*	Richard Hampson David Harmer Jeffrey Harris Nick Harrison		
*	Edward Hawkins Marisa Heath David Hodge CBE Saj Hussain		

*absent

78/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Bill Chapman, Matt Furniss, Richard Hampson, Edward Hawkins, Julie Iles and Rachael I Lake.

79/18 MINUTES [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 9 October 2018 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

80/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

The Chairman advised that he did not require Members to declare any significant personal interests that already appeared on their Registers of Interest. There were no declarations.

81/18 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman:

- Thanked the Members for attending Richard Wilson's funeral on 6 November 2018.
- Thanked those who attended the Act of Remembrance service on 9 November 2018.
- Informed Members that they would be receiving an invitation to submit a nomination for a volunteer who had made an outstanding contribution to their local area. Members were asked to nominate at least one individual each.

82/18 LEADER'S STATEMENT [Item 5]

The Leader made a detailed statement. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix 1.

Members raised the following topics:

- Thanked the Leader for his leadership and service to the Council during his time as Leader of the Council.
- Highlighted that the next Leader would bring the opportunity for a new era and new ways of working.
- That they felt positive about the future.
- That it takes bravery and commitment to be the Leader of the Council.
- Wished the Leader a happy retirement.
- That the Leader's successor faced an extreme challenge and that the Council would require strong leadership.
- That the Leader received a CBE in 2017 for services to local government and charity.
- Highlighted the importance of flood prevention in the County.

83/18 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 6]

Notice of seven questions had been received. The questions and replies were published in a supplementary agenda on 12 November 2018.

A number of supplementary questions were asked and a summary of the main points is set out below:

(Q1) Mr Robert Evans highlighted that Central Government had announced that an additional £42m would be allocated to repair potholes in the country and asked the Leader of the Council to confirm how much of this would be used in Surrey.

Cllr Essex asked for details of the Council's contact with parliament to request fairer funding on Surrey's roads.

The Leader confirmed that the Council would be receiving an additional £7.4m to repair potholes on Surrey's roads. He further highlighted that he had written to Central Government numerous times to make Surrey's case for fairer funding.

(Q2) Mr Will Forster asked the Cabinet Member for Children if she would write to borough and district councils who had not yet taken action to take young care leavers out of council tax to promote and support the scheme. The Cabinet Member noted the schemes benefits to those transitioning to adulthood and confirmed that she was happy to take the request forward. The Cabinet Member went on to ask Members of the Council who also had responsibilities with borough and district councils to support the scheme in their council meetings.

(Q3) Mrs Hazel Watson asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport if he was aware of the wider issues relating to parking displacement due to the car parking changes implemented in the countryside estate. The Cabinet Member noted these concerns and highlighted that there was a process to follow for any concern of parking displacement. He asked that Members contact him direct to outline issues relating to car parking as they can be passed on the appropriate officer.

(Q4) Mrs Barbara Thomson asked the Cabinet Lead Member for People what role local and joint committees had to support the efforts outlined in the response. The Cabinet Member highlighted the key roles of local and joint committees as well as other partners, which included the Community Safety Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board. It was further noted that Surrey Police would be providing seminars for front line workers to highlight ongoing work to prevent serious and organised crime.

(Q6) Mrs Hazel Watson asked the Cabinet Lead Member for Place to confirm the location of the 14 sites outlined in the question response. The Cabinet Member informed the Member that details of the 14 sites could be found in the relevant Cabinet papers.

(Q7) Mr Robert Evans asked the Cabinet Member for Corporate Support if awarding contracts based on their value for money was in line with the Council's ethos and principles relating to Fairtrade. He further asked for confirmation on whether the products provided by Commercial Services were Fairtrade. The Cabinet Member noted the Members comments relating to value for money contracts and agreed to provide a response to the query relating to the use of Fairtrade produce by Commercial Services outside the meeting.

Cabinet Member Briefings: these were also published with the supplementary agenda on 12 November 2018.

Members made the following comments:

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economic Prosperity: on the opportunity to fund tourism in the county to further develop the industry and increase its benefits for residents. The Cabinet Member highlighted that the University of Surrey had the third highest rated hospitality department in the world and informed Members that work was ongoing with the university to produce a mutual agreement for joint working. He further stated that discussions were ongoing with other progressive authorities to better understand the opportunities available.

Cabinet Lead Member for Place: on the Council's considerations to relocate its headquarters from Kingston upon Thames to a more central location in Surrey. The Cabinet Member stated that there were currently no formal plans and that work was ongoing to better understand the possible benefits of certain locations.

Members also raised concerns relating to the contracts available to mitigate flash flooding and its effects in the county.

Cabinet Member for Children: on the ongoing consultation relating to Children's Centres and the opportunity to schedule further drop-in sessions to increase consultations to better reflect the views of residents. The Cabinet Member agreed to speak to officers to discuss the opportunities available to increase engagement. It was further highlighted that the drop-in sessions also related to the consultations for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Library proposals.

Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning: on the transfer of £3.1m from a total £650m schools budget to support the £15m overspend on the High Needs SEND budget. The Cabinet Member highlighted that only schools entitled to additional funding would be affected by the decision and asked Members and School Governors to understand the rationale on why this was needed.

Cabinet Member for Adults: confirmed that the budget envelope for Adults had been red/amber/green rated in the financial strategy and stated that it would be shared with Members.

Cabinet Member for Community Services: on Trading Standards and the opportunities to broaden the ongoing work to prevent the scamming of residents.

84/18 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS [Item 7]

There were none.

85/18 ORIGINAL MOTIONS [Item 8]

Item 8(i)

Under Standing Order 12.3 the Council agreed to debate this motion.
Under Standing Order 12.1 Mr David Hodge moved the motion, which was:

The Surrey Youth Cabinet forms an important voice, representing the interests of young people across Surrey.

SCC's Cabinet met recently, and we agreed a number of areas where we will work in greater partnership going forward, which I believe will add real benefit to this Council and how we will provide services to young people in future.

I seek the Council's endorsement that we should invite the Surrey Youth Cabinet to hold formal elections to elect a young person as the Youth Mayor for Surrey for a 12 month period.

Mr Hodge made the following points:

- Highlighted the need for more representatives of young people on the Council.
- That this was an opportunity for the Council to engage further with young people and show that it wants young people to be more involved with politics and the civil service.
- Recognised that details of funding and the agreed process would need to be assessed by officers and the appropriate select committee.
- That he expects the first elections to be held in May 2019.

The motion was formally seconded by Mr McIntosh who made the following points:

- That he fully supported the motion and felt it was a fantastic idea.
- The London Borough of Croydon had great success in the area.
- That it would bring more opportunities for young people.
- That the motion would be a force for good in the Council and that more young people were needed in local politics.

Mr Botten withdrew an amendment to the original motion in his name which was previously circulated in the supplementary agenda.

Nine Members made the following points:

- Showed support for more young people in local politics.
- Informed Members that the Surrey Youth Cabinet supported the motion.
- That many young people felt the biggest issues were around mental health and knife crime.
- That this motion would encourage Members to better identify with young people.
- Hoped that the motion would provide wider political engagement with young people.
- That all Council decisions should consider their impact on young people.
- That they were very impressed with the Youth Parliament.
- Young people can be very open and honest when consulted.

The Chairman asked Mr Hodge, as proposer of the original motion, to conclude the debate. He stated:

- That this was a unique opportunity to work with the Youth Cabinet.

- Young people faced new and different problems which needed to be represented.
- Members needed to be confident that they could work with the Youth Cabinet.

The motion was put to a vote and received unanimous support.

Therefore it was **RESOLVED** that:

The Council should invite the Surrey Youth Cabinet to hold formal elections to elect a young person as the Youth Mayor for Surrey for a 12 month period.

86/18 ORGANISATION STRATEGY, PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL STRATEGY, TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME, AND 'OUR PEOPLE' STRATEGY [Item 9]

The Leader of the Council introduced the report and provided Members with a brief summary of each strategy. He stated that the County Council faced huge financial challenge and that, although support had been received from residents, there were still cuts to funding. The strategies set out the transformation that was required to meet new challenges as well as showing how the Council would work with residents. It was noted that each strategy had been approved by Cabinet on 30 October 2018.

Members made the following comments:

- The strategies added depth to the Vision for Surrey.
- Changes needed to be made to continue proving services to residents.
- Felt that, in order to support the transformation, all parties should be represented on the Cabinet.
- Highlighted that the consultation with residents and partners was not yet over.
- Highlighted that there were no drop-in sessions in Farnham and that residents had to travel long distances to give their views.
- Asked that evidence be provided to reassure Members on the benefits of the changes outlined in the strategies.
- That the Council was dominated by cuts and a better partnership was needed with Central Government.
- Members needed to be better involved with the scrutiny of the transformation.
- Raised concern that the detail would not match the Council's actions.
- Felt that the strategies were premature and that Members required more detail to make a decision.
- Plans were in place for the Corporate Overview Select Committee Budget Sub-Group to scrutinise the budget in November 2018.
- Raised concern with the budget reductions in the Children's Service.
- The Council needed to put previous issues behind it to face new challenges.
- That Members had the opportunity to request further detail when attending Member seminars.
- A culture change was needed in the Council.
- Highlighted that only 4% of the organisation's workforce were under the age of 25.
- That a firm political opposition had a role to play in decision making.

- Partner organisations had limited resource to support the Council.
- Highlighted the benefit of further robust scrutiny.
- Thanked residents for completing the consultations.
- The Council needed to look at how to deliver services differently.
- It was hopeful that Members were looking at the budget earlier than usual.
- That the consultations would be taken forward in an open and transparent way.
- That more Members should sign up to receive training on scrutiny.

Recommendation A

55 Members voted for, 11 against and 2 abstentions.

Recommendation B

48 Members voted for, 17 against and 3 abstentions.

Recommendation C

49 Members voted for, 14 against and 6 abstentions.

Recommendation D

53 Members voted for, 12 against and 4 abstentions.

Recommendation E

Unanimous.

Recommendation F

Unanimous.

Therefore it was RESOLVED:

The Council:

- a) Approved the Surrey County Council Organisation Strategy 2019 – 2023 (Annex 1), which sets out how the council will work with residents and partners to contribute to the achievement of the Community Vision for Surrey in 2030. It sets out priority areas the Council will focus on over the next four years.
- b) Approved the Preliminary Financial Strategy (PFS) 2019 – 2024 (Annex 2 and Appendix 1), which sets out a draft balanced budget for 2019/20, without the use of reserves, subject to the outcome of consultation, engagement and equality impact assessments.
- c) Approved the Transformation Programme (Full Business Case, Annex 3) subject to the outcome of consultation, engagement and equality impact assessments. The programme will be delivered through six delivery themes: Service Transformation, Partnership and Integration,

New Ways of Working, Commissioning, Investment & Income and Technology and Digital Innovation.

- d) Approved the 'Our People 2021' strategy (Annex 4), which is the Council's plan for the current and future workforce and sets out how we will develop our capacity and capability to contribute to the Community Vision for Surrey in 2030, achieve our priority strategic outcomes for residents, ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the council, drive wholesale transformational change over the next few years and create a high performance culture.
- e) Noted the planned engagement and consultation activity (referenced in paragraphs 27 and 28) related to the savings proposals contained within the PFS and Transformation Programme. These have been initiated under the formerly agreed delegated authority of senior officers.
- f) Noted that the outcomes of the engagement and consultation activity will be brought back to Cabinet on 29 January 2019, where Cabinet will be asked to make recommendations to the Council meeting in February 2019 on the revenue and capital budget and the council tax precept for 2019/20.

87/18 REPORT FROM THE PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE ON REFERRED MOTION [Item 10]

Members noted the report.

88/18 REPORT OF THE CABINET [Item 11]

The Leader presented the report of the Cabinet meeting held on 30 October 2018.

Reports for Information/ Discussion

- A. Surrey Asset And Place Strategy

RESOLVED:

- a. That a programme budget of up to £500,000 be approved to enable the development of the strategy and the financial validation, as transformation expenditure to be funded from capital receipts flexibility. This figure includes a previous decision by Council to allocate £275k.
- b. That the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 30 October 2018 be adopted.

89/18 MINUTES OF CABINET MEETING [Item 12]

No notification had been received by the deadline from Members wishing to raise a question or make a statement on any matters in the minutes.

[Meeting ended at: 1.02 pm]

Chairman

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