

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFINGS TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Colin Kemp

PORTFOLIO: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy Development & Infrastructure

- 1. A320 Woking Town Centre (Victoria Arch Railway Bridge and road network south of the railway line).** On 11 June 2019 the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government announced that Surrey County Council had been successful in its £95 million Housing Infrastructure Fund bid to deliver significant highway and rail infrastructure improvements in Woking that will unlock additional homes on 13 local plan housing development sites in Woking Town Centre. The highway and rail infrastructure improvements will be delivered on our behalf by Woking Borough Council in conjunction with Network Rail and is due to be completed by March 2023.
- 2. Surrey Future Steering Board meeting.** We hosted a meeting of the Board in May. Bob Pickles, Chair of the Employment and Skills Board (ESB) (see below) attended and gave a presentation on how the two boards can work together to deliver employment, infrastructure and skills projects.
- 3. Surrey 2050 Place Ambition.** We have worked with Districts/Boroughs and LEPs to draft a Place Ambition document which sets out a strategy for delivering good growth over the next 30 years. The partners are holding a Place Ambition conference on 11 July to introduce the document and secure support for its implementation. I will be speaking on Surrey's economy, the objective to realise the potential of Surrey's economic assets and how the work aligns with the LEP Local Industrial Strategies.
- 4. Surrey Employment and Skills Board.** In June, Joanna Killian presented the community vision ambitions to the ESB board. The ambitions fit well with the board priorities, including a project to enable more employers to realise the hidden talent in Surrey and help to train and employ young and vulnerable residents within the local workforce. Bob Pickles (the Chair of the ESB) has joined the Board of Surrey Future to provide an employment and skills perspective on future infrastructure projects, including opening up a dialogue with the airports to better understand and prepare for the future skills demand, impact and provision needs.
- 5. Representing Surrey County Council on both LEPs.** I recently gave a presentation at the EM3 AGM, attended the EM3 Board meeting and the C2C Investment Committee. We are engaging with C2C on the strategy for the development of their Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and are attending their big debate events. The LIS will align with the five foundations of productivity: ideas, people, infrastructure, place and business environment and will address some of the four grand challenges: artificial intelligence & data, clean growth, future of mobility and an ageing society.
- 6. Economic Development Officers Group (EDOS).** I attended the Surrey EDOS meeting with the aim of improving links with the Economic Development teams from the Districts and Boroughs, promoting their great work and raising the political awareness of economic growth and opportunities across the County.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Denise Turner-Stewart

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety Fire and Resilience

Trading Standards

There is growing and widespread concern about the rise of knife crime and violence, particularly involving young people. Although there is little evidence available about the source of knives involved, one potential source is from retailers. It is illegal to sell knives to anyone under 18.

The Trading Standards service has worked in partnership with both Surrey Police and Thames Valley Police as part of Operation Sceptre to tackle illegal underage sales of knives. Education and advice visits were made, and using Police and Army cadets, retailers were visited, and test purchases attempted. In most cases sales were correctly refused but some sales were made with no checks carried out. Of 26 test purchase attempts in Surrey two sales were made.

This year the Trading Standards service will continue to work to educate and inform businesses about their legal responsibilities, about how to check age and take appropriate measures to prevent illegal sales. This will include the dissemination and promotion of new nationally produced online training materials. The service will also continue to work with the Police to assist test purchasing operations, check compliance and help drive down the accessibility of knives to young people.

Community Safety

We are currently working on a Public Health Approach programme to address Serious Youth Violence using evidence to understand the picture of violence in Surrey to develop primary, secondary and tertiary prevention measures. So far we have worked hard on identifying and analysing data sources received from colleagues to identify opportunities to prevent initial involvement, prevent escalation and to mitigate harmful outcomes. It is important that we develop a prevention and early intervention offer through a multi-agency approach to ensure partners are working effectively together for children at risk.

Registration Service

With the wedding season in full swing, the Registration Service is exploring new ways of enhancing ceremonial services for the future. There is a planned introduction of new ceremony packages, which will not only give couples more choice about how and where their ceremonies take place but will also help to sustain and develop income generation. Through a joint programme of strategic planning with Property and Finance, a scope of work for the improvement of facilities at existing ceremony venues will be taking place. Further exploration to identify additional ceremony venues aims to offer more choice to residents and to make the best use of council property assets. To ensure effective interaction with residents to promote ceremonial services, research is underway for the development of a dedicated ceremony website and modern marketing plan.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Julie Iles

PORTFOLIO: All-Age Learning

Since my [last update to Full Council](#), Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission have [published their findings](#) of a joint review of Surrey's progress in addressing weaknesses highlighted in the previous local area SEND inspection.

During the revisit, the inspectors spoke to children and young people, parents and carers, headteachers and school special needs co-ordinators, health partners and our own council staff. I was pleased that they found tangible improvements in a number of areas including timeliness of statutory assessments, the quality of management information, the involvement of children, young people and their parents and earlier identification of special educational needs by schools. They also judged that the local area had not made sufficient progress on one area, attendance at school for pupils with SEND.

While these early signs of progress are welcome and encouraging, there is much more work to do to improve and transform our SEND services. Key to this is the development of a Surrey partnership vision for SEND which will be published shortly in the SEND Strategy 2019-2022. The strategy has been informed by a public consultation and significant engagement activity across families, young people and staff in health, education and the council. The activities to deliver the priorities outlined in the SEND strategy are brought together in the SEND Transformation Programme. The programme has recently been reviewed to ensure that the vision and direction for achieving improved outcomes for children with SEND are clear, and that the financial model for achieving sustainability is sound.

Work continues at pace on a new Graduated Response model for working with children who have, or may have, SEND. It enables professionals to identify and provide an early response appropriate to the child's level of needs. The input of special educational needs co-ordinators in schools, practitioners in our SEND and early years teams and families and carers has been invaluable in developing the tools to support this new model. Importantly, the Graduated Response is closely aligned to our new 'Family Resilience' model in children's social care. In the SEND revisit, the inspectors noted the 'coherent continuum' of support which the Graduated Response provides.

I would like to draw attention to a report which will be presented to the [Cabinet meeting on 16 July 2019](#) recommending the formation of a new partnership called the Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE). The partnership will be a limited company with a range of members including Surrey County Council and representatives of schools, the Church of England's Guildford diocese and early years providers. The Council will commission SAfE to deliver its statutory responsibilities relating to school standards. The partnership will enable the use of the Surrey Teaching Schools Network's (STSN) strong system leaders to support, challenge and intervene in schools of concern. Some of the Council's other statutory functions may be commissioned from SAfE in the future.

Finally, this month I agreed the Primary and Secondary Fair Access Protocols for 2019/20. This protocol ensures that unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school in their home local authority as quickly as possible. Surrey's Fair Access Protocols have been strengthened to provide greater clarity on roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders and highlights good practice for all schools. We have also reviewed and changed how funding is provided to schools under the protocol to benefit a wider range of schools and pupils.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Mary Lewis

PORTFOLIO: Children

The pace and scale of change to services supporting **children, young people and families** has continued since my last report to Full Council in March.

The top-to-bottom **restructure of our services** has concluded and we are now well placed to continue with the culture and service improvement work. The implementation of new front door arrangements and our **Single Point of Access (SPA)** means we can ensure the council has preventative and early help services in place. We have implemented the **Family Safeguarding Model**, first pioneered in Hertfordshire and now backed by the Department for Education (DfE) due to evidence that it will improve the quality of work with families, and outcomes for children and parents. We made a commitment to strengthen our relationship with foster carers, adopters and other carers. Over the past year we have significantly increased our **recruitment of foster carers** and are focussing on giving children in care stable placements closer to home.

This year we are transitioning to the new **Safeguarding Partnership arrangements** in Surrey; [our approach](#) has been approved by the DfE and will be in place from September 2019. The new arrangements are designed to ensure strong and effective partnership working in child protection and safeguarding practice across the county and to promote the continuous improvement of these services.

The **Corporate Parenting Board** are now developing our strategy for the next few years and key to this is creating a consistent 'offer' for the children and young people we support. The updated **Local Offer for Care Leavers** was published earlier this year and is available [on the public website](#). In June several CPB Members began a programme of **visits to Surrey's children's homes** to talk to young people, listen to their views and improve our understanding of their experiences when living there; we'll be using this learning to help drive changes in our frontline practice for children in care.

As Lead Member, I have been **visiting our front-line teams** across the county, meeting with staff and talking through the crucial work they do on a day-to-day basis to support our residents. The North-West, South-West and Single-Point-of-Access teams all welcomed me over the last 2 months and I will be visiting the North-East and South-East teams soon. These 'Recommendation 41 visits' were part of Lord Laming's recommendations following the Victoria Climbié Inquiry and they focus on staff morale, workloads and management oversight. I have found a passion for improvement, teamwork and a determination to provide the best support possible; I'm proud of the way the teams have embraced the scale of change over the last year.

We continue to make a huge amount of progress in improving children's services and this is supported by recent external scrutiny: The **Children's Commissioner** reviewed our progress in April and concluded that "the authority has made rapid and solid progress since submitting his original report [to the DfE]".

On 5 & 6 June Ofsted carried out a monitoring visit to evaluate our **'front door' (Single Point of Access)** and **Early Help Hub** services and found that we have ["achieved a fundamental aim of the remodelling"](#) and have ["made substantial progress...through the newly implemented 'front door' arrangements"](#).

Our **Youth Offending Services** were inspected between 10 and 14 June by the HM Inspectorate of Probation. Their inspection regime is based on analysis of historic cases, rather than future plans, so we anticipate they will suggest a range of improvements, some of which we have already started. We expect their report in mid-August.

Due to the pace and breadth of change across services for children, I have continued to send regular newsletters to Members:

- [Children's Improvement Newsletter – March 2019](#)
- [Children's Improvement Newsletter – April 2019](#)
- [Children's Improvement Newsletter – May-June 2019](#)

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Matthew Furniss

PORTFOLIO: Highways

Update on the progress of the increased investment in roads this year

- We are in the second year of the Severe Weather Recovery Programme, having last year completed approximately 300 schemes comprising surfacing, large/small scale patching and surface dressing.
- So far this year we have completed 23 surfacing and patching schemes, and 50 surface dressing schemes under this programme.
- There are a further 33 surfacing and patching schemes programmed for the rest of the year.
- There are a number of reserve schemes also on the programme, and we will be monitoring any further deterioration across the network over the autumn and winter period, prioritising these with the remaining funding.

Town centre agreements report going to Cabinet

- A report is going to [Cabinet in July](#) that will build on our solid partnership working with the District & Borough Councils.
- This will enable important highway maintenance works to be undertaken by those best placed to do so.
- There is potential that through closer working there can be an improved level of maintenance, management and investment to our important and high profile town centre locations.

Surrey Infrastructure Academy launch

- The launch event for the [Surrey Infrastructure Academy](#) took place on Wednesday 26 June 2019.
- This is a collaborative project between Surrey County Council, the four major FE colleges in Surrey and the Infrastructure Industry.
- The project has been led by Kier and developed as part of the Surrey Highways contract to help reverse the ticking time bomb in skills within the Highways, Utilities, Civil Engineering and Energy industries.
- The doors are open for students to start in September 2019 with a range of new and existing courses, packaged as a tangible institution, supported by employers, appealing to students, parents and schools giving a viable entry to a career in the Infrastructure Sector.

Update on LED rollout

- Officers continue to finalise the negotiation of the PFI contract change which is progressing well with conversion expected to commence in the autumn as planned.
- In December 2018, a small number of street lights near to the Highways Depot in Merrow were converted to LED and are working well.
- In the spring, a traffic camera and radar counter was installed along with a temperature sensor and an air quality monitoring sensor to test their functionality and initial reports are being reviewed by officers to understand what the data shows.
- The trial was extended to a number of roads in Merrow in late May with around 100 lights converted to LED which allowed Skanska to test and improve on the conversion process ahead of the work starting which will see up to 3000 lights converted per month.
- The Deed of Variation to the contract is expected to be executed in the coming weeks and once completed, further information on the work including the programme and dates for each area will be shared with Members and the public.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Melville Few

PORTFOLIO: Finance and Property

Finance:

- Budget
 - Budget envelopes for each service have been completed with the annual savings targets of £82m incorporated into each service.
 - Alignment with the key transformation programmes has been completed.
- Structure of the Finance Team has been finalised and recruitment to the new structure has commenced.
- Finance Improvement programme has been initiated with member involvement.
- Capital budget is in the process of being reviewed in line with expected delivery of projects
- The year end financial accounts have been completed and are now in the hands of external auditors.

Property:

- The initial tranche of properties for redevelopment have been agreed and handed over to our Joint Venture partners to produce detailed plans and associated financial plans for sign off. A more detailed paper will be going to the Cabinet in July as we look to accelerate the delivery of more units across the County.
- Recruitment of new Director of Strategic Land and Assets is underway, with the intention to appoint by the end of July

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Mike Goodman

PORTFOLIO: Environment and Waste

Countryside - I would like to thank everyone who has responded during the engagement phase to develop our new **Countryside Estate Strategy**, we have an initial draft and will finalise it later in the year. The final strategy has been put on hold to allow the Council time to establish an Environment Commission that will look at the wider challenges of climate change.

We will launch the **Environment Commission** on 12 July at our Rural Business Conference where the Secretary of State for Environment will be the keynote speaker. The theme of the conference is the importance of the environment and the different role it plays in supporting local, rural businesses. Other speakers include the CEO of Natural England, the Director for the Natural Environment at Defra, as well as local business owners.

Heathrow's statutory Airport Expansion consultation is open until 13 September with a number of consultation events running until then. I have arranged a separate member briefing session for the morning 22 July. Our response to the consultation will provide detailed comment on the impacts of the proposals on the county.

We continue to make the case for a Southern Rail Access to Heathrow. Through the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group we have written to the Department for Transport setting out our priority objectives for a scheme which will help inform the department's preferred southern rail option.

Recent press coverage highlighted the issue of the health and environmental impacts of leaving engines idling, where Year 4 and Year 6 pupils at Hurst Park Primary School in West Molesey spoke to drivers asking them to switch off their engines. This is all part of the county-wide **Schools Air Quality Programme** launched last October, aiming to reduce air pollution near targeted primary and secondary schools.

I am also talking to our biggest bus operators to see how together we can accelerate the introduction of more **ultra-low emission and electric buses** into Surrey.

Surrey's **Rethinking Transport** project has been set up to reimagine transport in the county. It aims to develop innovative and sustainable transport options, while also thinking about how residents can access communities, employment, health and other key services more easily to avoid unnecessary travel. Three common ambitions have emerged from conversations with a broad range of stakeholders including reducing congestion, improving air quality, and increasing flexible, independent travel options.

Waste

In May 2019, we started a trial to accept recycling only at four of our smallest **community recycling centres** (CRCs). The aim of this trial is to encourage greater levels of recycling, which will be better for the environment as well as reducing our costs. Officers will be carefully monitoring the trial over the coming months to judge its effectiveness. In May, the Leader announced that the introduction of charges for **construction wood waste** at our CRCs would be deferred pending the outcome of the work being undertaken by the Waste Task Group chaired by Cllr Povey. This Task Group is due to report in September.

I am also pleased to announce that the first delivery of food waste to the **Eco Park** anaerobic digestion plant took place in May. Commissioning of the anaerobic digester and gasifier continues.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Sinead Mooney

PORTFOLIO: Adults & Public Health

Sexual Health contract update:

The contract for the Integrated Sexual Health and HIV services was awarded to CNWL in 2016. This was a 'three plus two' year contract which gives the option not to extend after three years if the performance was particularly poor. We have engaged with patients, the public and our partners since the contract was awarded and this identified a number of areas for improvement. Based on this, and on our continual monitoring of the service, we recently agreed that whilst we need to continue to work to resolve issues raised, there was no justification to end the contract after the initial three years and the decision was made to remain with the current provider until the five year contract ends in March 2022. The decision making process taken by both NHS England and SCC and has been shared with key partners.

This feedback, along with our monitoring of the service, has informed the development of a number of key themes. These themes form the basis of a continuous improvement plan which we are currently working through with CNWL (our provider).

CNWL were already working on a number of these themes and actions. The next stages to the improvement plan are as follows:

1. Finalise how specific improvements will be measured
2. Agree timescales for specific targets
3. Continue to monitor progress

We are meeting with Surrey Healthwatch to ensure we address the concerns raised through them. We are also working together to increase the number of face to face contacts CNWL have with patients.

Budget

As Members know, last year the Department over achieved its savings target. This put us in a position where we could deliver the further reductions needed in the current year. Our initial net budget for 18/19 was £381.7m and the budget for 19/20 was set at £364.8m – a reduction of 4%. The position is made worse because there are several unavoidable cost pressures, including £5m additional spend from young people making the transition from Children's to Adults services.

All Party Cabinet Parliamentary Group on adult social care

I attended the launch on Wednesday 3 July of the [All-Party Parliamentary Group on adult social care](#), set up to influence policy and push for reform of the social care system.

I briefed them on our achievements as a Council including our work on prevention, our plans for more accommodation with care and support and our approach to providing personalised care designed to promote independence. But I also made it clear that urgent action is needed from the Government to put funding for adult social care on a sustainable footing and the system must also reflect local priorities and needs.

TIHM (Technology Integrated Health Management)

I visited the TIHM project, using new technology and machine learning to provide a new approach to responding to the needs of people with dementia. The project is a partnership between Surrey University, Surrey and Borders Partnership Trust and the Alzheimer's Society. I hope very much that SCC can join the initiative and pilot the approach with people requiring social care.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Dr Zully Grant-Duff

PORTFOLIO: Corporate Support

Development of a new IT & Digital Strategy is progressing and will be supported by this month's appointment of a digital agency to accelerate digital service design and by the forthcoming Surrey digital inclusion report. We are working with Citizens Online (a charity organisation) to ensure residents are supported in accessing digital services by developing partnerships with other local organisations that could act as advocates.

New technology capabilities are being deployed to support services' transformation work; robotics automation now supports Adult Social Care with meeting obligations under GDPR; HR data dashboards are being used to derive workforce insights; the Adult Social Care delegation portal now allows external professionals to contribute to care assessments online. The upgrading of all computer devices to Windows 10, a new seamless IT security experience (always on VPN) and deployment of the ubiquitous GovWiFi are all rolling out this financial year.

A single view of information for some of our most vulnerable residents will be enabled through a new technology platform that will permit different services to connect data across systems; in support, the council is working with Islington and Camden Councils on an ethical decision-making framework ensuring residents' confidence on how information is used.

New workstyles have been developed and tested to support the Agile Working and Moving Closer to Residents programmes; activities are underway to improve the experience of workplace technology. Adult Social Care and Highways & Transport teams are testing new mobile computers. A mobile application which shows availability of on-call Section 12 (Mental Health Act) doctors is now available for Approved Mental Health Practitioners working in the community.

A new Children's 'Request for Support' team within Customer Services went live in April 2019. The recent Ofsted visit in June reported positively on the new arrangements for managing incoming contacts and referrals.

Re-designed digital journeys for reporting highway defects and enquiries are due to go live on the website in mid-July, pending tests results. This will make it easier for residents to self-serve online and will also proactively keep them informed.

SCC website homepage revamp is underway as part of the Customer Experience project to make it simpler for residents to interact and transact with the council online, freeing up resources for alternative methods of contact for those that need it.

Orbis – The three Council Chief Executives (Surrey CC, East Sussex CC and Brighton & Hove City Council) commissioned a report (concluded April 2019) into the current and future requirements of Orbis. Following, decisions were taken to return Finance and HR services to sovereign functions for SCC and for all three councils to repatriate the property function, while staying committed to the integrated arrangements in relation to IT, Procurement, and Business Operations through to April 2023 at least. Work is underway to formalise the changes and the associated redistribution of resource. **Orbis Public Law** – all partners have decided to step down the overall integration work and focus instead on some targeted areas for joint working.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Alison Griffiths

PORTFOLIO: Health

In my new role as Deputy Cabinet Member for Health I have met key officers within Public Health to increase my understanding of the service and its varied priorities, and on-going projects. I recently attended ASIST (Applied Suicide intervention skills training) providing SCC a trained member able to assist with anyone experiencing suicidal tendencies. I also attended The Local Government Mental Health challenge prevention focused leadership workshop as SCC's Mental Health Champion, a cross party group supported by numerous charities including MIND, Mental Health foundation and Young Minds. I attended my first Health & Wellbeing Alliance meeting on 13 June and I am currently working with Amy Morgan (PH Policy & Programme Manager) to track the rollout of the priority 1 activities in the Health and Wellbeing strategy, ensuring they underpin everything we do.

Urgent Treatment Centres

Following the National Urgent Care Review we plan to review the urgent care services across Surrey to identify what changes we need to make to ensure they meet the changing needs of our population and sit within the new NHSE guidance. The Better Care Together Guilford and Waverly programme and The Big Picture Programme NWS are both focused on the delivery of this programme.

Substance misuse service visit:

Councillor Mooney and I visited the integrated adult drug and alcohol misuse treatment service "i-access" on 26th June. We met with service Manager Katy Matthews, Public Health Lead Martyn Munro and Public Health Consultant Jonathan Lewney to discuss the changes made to treatment services in response to the continuing pressures borne by the public health budget. Changes include: a collaborative co-design approach that integrated two key core services delivered by Surrey and Borders Partnership Trust and Catalyst (a substance misuse and mental health charity) in the i-access partnership, the remodelling of the detoxification element of treatment that included the closure of an in-patient unit, and the introduction of an innovative ambulatory detoxification which is available from two locations in Surrey¹.

A priority has been for i-access to maintain a wide range of treatment access points in the community; including a single point of contact with telephone referral, three hubs and 23 [satellite access points](#). We met a range of people who have used i-access, some who had accessed ambulatory detoxification and others who are peer mentors or members of "Surrey Spring" an independent community recovery network led by people with lived experience. It was evident that i-access provides an essential element to peoples recovery journeys, which was shown by the commitment of the team and the testament of those who sought support to make constructive changes in their lives. This success is reflected in performance data provided by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMs), which shows Surrey as having similar to higher performance when compared to other Local Authorities.

¹ The Ambulatory service is staffed Monday to Friday. The person attends a clinic every week day morning. People detoxifying from alcohol receive their medication, which is administered by a qualified nurse. They are then given their night time dose as take away medication. People detoxifying from drugs are dispensed their medication from their identified pharmacy. Participants also attend a support group run by a trained group facilitator. If necessary, a nurse gives additional medication according to the person's need. The programme finishes at lunchtime; lunch is provided and starts again the following weekday morning. Most alcohol detoxification programmes will last between five to ten days and people are given medication for the weekend.

Drug detoxification programmes vary according to the person's needs, but those who need additional support will be invited to attend the ambulatory detoxification programme for the final two weeks of their reduction regime. This service is available at two clinic locations in Surrey: Farnham Road Hospital in Guildford and Wingfield Resource Centre in Redhill. Where a person's journey to the service is challenging i-access have also provided additional transport (often this is the use of a taxi).

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Cameron McIntosh

PORTFOLIO: SEND

I am delighted to have a focus on SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) transport as Deputy Cabinet Member supporting Cabinet Member Julie Iles. The Council is ambitious for Surrey children and young people with SEND, and they and their families must be at the heart of our SEND services.

Like all councils, Surrey County Council has statutory responsibilities related to home to school transport for children with SEND and without. It is important that we continue to deliver these. Equally, parents have responsibilities to ensure their school-aged children attend school regularly and make any necessary arrangements to ensure that they attend school.

In Surrey, our culture and practice have driven expectations for transport for children and young people with SEND that are well beyond what the Council is required to provide. Surrey is spending two and a half times or more per head on SEND transport than counties with similar populations, demographics and geographies. Our current spending of £33.3m on SEND transport in 2019/20 is nearly 50% more than was spent in 2013. That is equivalent to approximately 5% of the yield from Council Tax. This rate of growth is financially unsustainable and is not an efficient use of public resources.

From September 2019, students with SEND who are aged 16 or over and who are starting a new course will pay a contribution toward the cost of any travel arrangements made by the Council. The charges cover on average less than 25% of the actual cost of providing transport, and are the same as the rates for young people without SEND. There is a reduced charge for low income families. Independent benchmarking with other local authorities confirmed that Surrey is the only area that provides discretionary post 16 transport free of charge. Some areas make no transport arrangements for young people from the age of 17.

Young people with SEND in Surrey tell us that they value independence, and that they want their parents, schools and the services that support them to help them prepare for adulthood. The ability to travel independently is important to them now in order to attend school, participate in community life and socialise with friends; it is also fundamental to their future ambitions. For this reason, I am pleased that young people are beginning to be trained to travel independently through the Council's independent travel training offer for young people with SEND. Of course parents can also teach their children to travel safely and independently, and schools can promote road awareness and safe routes to and from school.

Over the summer and autumn we will continue to review our SEND travel assistance arrangements to ensure the Council continues to deliver its statutory responsibilities, improves outcomes for children and young people with SEND and controls costs.

Since my last update to Council on the Youth Cabinet, I am delighted to announce that for the first time Surrey has elected its own Youth Mayor (Jacob Wrenn) and Youth Deputy Mayor (Daniel Evans). The elections for Youth Mayor took place on the 17 June, amongst members of the Surrey Youth Cabinet. Jacob was elected and produced an impressive Manifesto. His key goal is to challenge the disconnect between youth voice groups and the inconsistencies in representation seen across Surrey.

I hope members will want to work with the newly elected Youth Mayor and Youth Cabinet Members representing the districts and boroughs across Surrey.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Natalie Bramhall

PORTFOLIO: Property

Asset & Place Programme

The Asset and Place strategy, with associated Action Plan, was [approved by Cabinet in April 2019](#). This strategy sets the direction of travel for how the Council will rationalise, consolidate and invest in its assets for the next 5-10 years.

Members are asked, if they have not read it, to do so as this is an important milestone in delivering the Community Vision for Surrey in 2030.

We are now turning our attention to delivering the action plan. Key to this is the aim to consolidate our operational assets that are not schools from 300 – 100 over the next 3-5 years. This will only work if we, as a whole organisation, work together to identify opportunities for working different to release property.

The action plan targets are on track to be delivered. Key to this is the corporate decision making about the use of property in future, and to this end, we are talking to services about their property requirements particularly in relation to extra care, SEND, youth centres, libraries and mental health services. Staff are also supporting the relocation of c500 staff over the next 6 months, partly to deliver service restructure changes, and partly to support the consolidation of assets.

The first new scheme approvals from the first asset reviews are due in September, and we are on target to achieve this.

Property project delivery

Since the last update in March, the Council has approved and/or delivered the following projects:

- 4 sites approved to be developed by the Joint Venture, 5 more in the pipeline, 4 of which are due for approval in the coming weeks
- Disposals of a number of assets no longer required, increasing the Council's capital receipts.
- Completion of Linden Farm – a centre for autism supported living
- High level feasibility of the Horseshoe site on track for autumn 2019, in consultation with key stakeholders

In line with the need for additional resources to support delivery at pace, 4 additional development managers have been recruited, along with additional project managers and support staff. In addition, the strategic property services function is now being managed directly by Surrey, and is no longer part of ORBIS, and a restructure of the property service function is underway with the appointment of a new Director of Strategic Land and Assets due this month (July 2019).

SWT

Plans are also in progress to change the management of the countryside estate assets currently managed by the Surrey Wildlife Trust in order to provide the Council with more control of the use of the estate.

Property investment

A review of the Council's Investment Strategy has begun to consider and agree the future direction of travel for investments.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER UPDATE TO FULL COUNCIL

NAME: Wyatt Ramsdale

PORTFOLIO: Orbis (previously Environment & Waste)

The Environment & Waste (E&W) budget requires significant savings to be delivered and faces cost pressures in 2019/20. I have been spending time with E&W Services and their Finance team to ensure that plans are in place to deliver those savings, and that compensating savings or contingency plans are being developed where necessary, in order to ensure that spend remains within the approved budget envelope. In particular this encompasses factors affecting the Council's waste management costs, the development of the Eco Park, and concessionary fares.

I am specifically involved in overseeing the work to draft a shadow budget for different elements or activities of the countryside estate including current and potentially expanded commercial activities. This work will enable financial assessment of the alternatives on how the countryside estate can be best managed going forward.

Since being appointed to the Orbis role I have been able to meet some of the senior officers responsible for delivering our Orbis services and proactively discussed the challenges they face.

These challenges include:

Making sure all the services have a good or better reputation for service delivery equipping them to generate income from new business.

Having a robust plan to catch-up on the backlog of transaction processing in the Pensions service. Our Pensions administration service has not been meeting the service levels we would want. I am working to fully understand the team structure that has now been put in place and the improvement plans underway to improve the service. In particular the robust plan to catch-up on this backlog of transaction processing.

Ensuring that upcoming procurement projects are properly identified to appear in the report going to Cabinet in September enabling an early input to those projects. This will provide transparency of currently planned activities for Q3 and Q4 2019/20 and ensure the new streamlined PCSOs (Procurement and Contracts Standing Orders) approval process can be used as soon as possible.

Developing an Annual Procurement Forward Plan during the business planning cycle for 2020/21. This will be finalised during Q2 and Q3 this year.

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