

County Council Meeting – 24 May 2022

REPORT OF THE CABINET

The Cabinet met on 29 March 2022 and 26 April 2022.

In accordance with the Constitution, Members can ask questions of the appropriate Cabinet Member, seek clarification or make a statement on any of these issues without giving notice.

The minutes containing the individual decisions for the meetings above have been included within the original agenda at Item 17. Any Cabinet responses to Committee reports are included in or appended to the minutes. If any Member wishes to raise a question or make a statement on any of the matters in the minutes, notice must be given to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the last working day before the County Council meeting (Monday 23 May 2022).

For members of the public all non-confidential reports are available on the web site (www.surreycc.gov.uk) or on request from Democratic Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

There were no reports with recommendations for Council.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

At its meeting on 29 March 2022 Cabinet considered:

A. OUR RADICAL AGENDA FOR EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN SURREY AND SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL - ONE YEAR ON

This report asked the Cabinet to approve a proposed refreshed version of the equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) action plan for 2022-23 that aims to continue important work started in the last year and refines its focus on the activities that will make the greatest impact for stakeholders.

Cabinet AGREED:

1. That Cabinet notes the progress that has been made over the past year towards the Council's ambitions to tackle inequality and ensure that no-one is left behind.
2. That Cabinet endorses the refreshed Surrey County Council Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan 2022-23.

Reasons for decisions:

The EDI action plan is key to delivering the equality objectives in the Organisation Strategy 2021-26 and plays a pivotal role in supporting the council's wider aim to tackle inequality to ensure no-one is left behind. Moving to a fairer, more compassionate and inclusive culture will inform how we

develop policy, take decisions and serve all stakeholders so everyone who lives, works and studies in Surrey is supported to thrive.

The updated action plan aims to build on the progress made through the action plan for 2021-22. The focus of the updated plan has been refined to support residents and our workforce with protected characteristics, and those who experience other inequalities (such as socio-economic inequality), to have more opportunities to have improved outcomes.

B. ADOPTION OF MOVING TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT POWERS

This year, the Department for Transport (DfT) will allow councils in England and Wales to apply for new powers to carry out Moving Traffic Enforcement (MTE). The report set out the background, benefits and issues associated with MTE and recommended that the council applies for these new powers following the process prescribed by the DfT. It also recommended that a procurement process to identify a supplier/enforcement contractor to operate and maintain the infrastructure required commences.

Cabinet AGREED:

1. That Cabinet makes an application to the DfT for powers to enforce moving traffic contraventions in accordance with Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004;
2. That Cabinet delegates the management of operational policy regarding camera site selection and operation to the Director for Highways and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the divisional member;
3. That Cabinet delegates the authority to approve future camera enforcement sites to the Director for Highways and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the divisional member ensuring there is a cost neutral financial case, or if not other identified funding.
4. That Cabinet approves the setting of PCNs to be issued with MTE at the higher level (£70) for moving traffic contraventions.
5. That Cabinet agrees to receive annual reports on the effectiveness of MTE by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure.
6. That Cabinet delegates authority to make decisions about the use of any surplus income to the Director for Highways and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure.

7. That Cabinet agrees to begin a procurement process to appoint a supplier for 'Civil Enforcement services' with the outcome being reported back to the Cabinet for approval prior to award.

Reasons for decisions:

The recommendations above will enable the council to help achieve some of its Community Vision 2030 objectives, including that:

- Residents live in clean, safe and green communities, where people and organisations embrace their environmental responsibilities; and
- Journeys across the county are easier, more predictable and safer.

Specifically, traffic enforcement cameras provide an option to make travel and transportation schemes more effective and could be a key tool in helping deliver transportation and environmental objectives to reduce congestion and improve facilities for buses, cycles and pedestrians, particularly vulnerable road users.

At its meeting on 26 April 2022 Cabinet considered:

C. A DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR SURREY

The report outlined the key implications of and opportunities within the Government's Levelling Up White Paper for Surrey, particularly in relation to the devolution framework and a Surrey County Deal. It set out the initial ideas being explored and developed in partnership with others that will form proposals within a County Deal and considers how devolution for Surrey would positively contribute to the council's overarching ambition of No One Left Behind.

Cabinet AGREED:

1. That Cabinet supports the approach set out to develop a Devolution Deal for Surrey, to accelerate and better enable work to tackle inequalities in Surrey.
2. That Cabinet reaffirms the Council's commitment to ensuring No One is Left Behind and note the strong alignment to the Government's Levelling Up agenda.
3. That Cabinet endorses the approach and plan for further engagement with local partners and key stakeholders to support development of a devolution proposal for Surrey.
4. That Cabinet supports the intention to engage with the Surrey Delivery Board as a key stakeholder group in developing and shaping a comprehensive devolution deal for the benefit of Surrey's residents, communities, and businesses.
5. That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director for Partnerships, Prosperity, and Growth to lead engagement with the

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on the devolution proposal following consideration by Cabinet, and to take other necessary steps in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Cabinet Member for Levelling Up.

Reasons for decisions:

The Government's Levelling Up White Paper presents a rare opportunity for the council to pursue a devolution deal for Surrey that will bring new powers, freedoms and flexibilities, better enabling the council to deliver for residents against its organisational priorities and work towards its ambition of No One Left Behind.

D. HOME TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRAVEL ASSISTANCE POLICY REFRESH

The report outlines the proposed updates to the Home to School Travel Assistance (H2S TA) policy for children and young people in mainstream schools and pupils attending specialist schools for children with additional needs (SEND). The report sets out the rationale for and the objectives of the changes, the changes being consulted on and the intended outcomes.

Cabinet AGREED:

1. That Cabinet notes the impacts and mitigations set out in the Equality Impact Assessment (Annex B)
2. That Cabinet notes the outcomes of the engagement with residents and the 28 working day public consultation (Annex C)
3. That Cabinet approves changes to the Home to School/College Travel Assistance policy having considered the above documents (set out in paragraphs 11-51)
4. That Cabinet approves the revised Home to School/College Travel Assistance policy (Annex D)
5. That Cabinet agrees the proposal to produce an enhanced Post 16 Policy Statement and agrees that the Cabinet Member has delegated authority to approve the statement.

Reasons for decisions:

The H2S TA policy sets out the way in which the Council discharges its statutory and discretionary powers and responsibilities in relation to school and college transport assistance available for pupils aged up to 25 years of age, both with and without additional needs. While Surrey County Council will continue to support those who most need help, the Council must manage increasing costs and demand within the overall resources available. The recommendations set out in this report will increase the options for children and young people who qualify for H2S TA, encourage people to use environmentally friendly travel and support independent travel as a means of preparing young people for adulthood.

E. SURREY'S GREENER FUTURES GRANT PROGRAMMES

This report sought approval for the receipt of a number of specific funds with which Surrey County Council have already been successful, and secondly to get approval for similar decisions for future applications.

Cabinet AGREED:

1. That Cabinet approves the receipt of funding into the Council's capital pipeline from Government net zero carbon grant funding programmes, specifically the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS3) and the Sustainable Warmth Programme (which includes the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHGLAD3) and Home Upgrade Grant (HUG1))
2. That Cabinet notes the use of match funding from the approved Corporate Capital Maintenance Programme, subject to the Capital Programme Panel (CPP) approving business cases for individual sites.
3. That Cabinet approves the request to competitively procure the Sustainable Warmth Programme and PSDS3 services under separate contracts, in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contracting Standing Orders.
4. That Cabinet approves the receipt of future funding schemes for the purposes of delivery of the Greener Futures ambition, including future tranches of the PSDS schemes and Sustainable Warmth programmes as well as, but not limited to, the schemes included in Annex 1. Receipt of funding will be subject to Capital Programme Panel approval.

Reasons for decisions:

The recommendations in this report will enable the Council to:

- Draw down Government funding of £13.15m. This includes £2.652m from PSDS3 to decarbonise buildings in the SCC estate and schools and £10.5m from the Sustainable Warmth Programme, which includes £8.3m for GHGLAD3 and £2.2m for HUG1, which will be used to decarbonise homes of residents on low incomes.
- Be as agile as possible to maximise the attraction of future external grant funding sources.

F. QUARTERLY REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER SPECIAL URGENCY ARRANGEMENTS: 15 March 2022 – 13 May 2022

The Cabinet is required under the Constitution to report to Council on a quarterly basis the details of decisions taken by the Cabinet and Cabinet Members under the special urgency arrangements set out in Standing Order

57 of the Constitution. This occurs where a decision is required on a matter that is not contained within the Leader's Forward Plan (Notice of Decisions), nor available 5 clear days before the meeting. Where a decision on such matters could not reasonably be delayed, the agreement of the Chairman of the appropriate Select Committee, or in his/her absence the Chairman of the Council, must be sought to enable the decision to be made.

The Cabinet RECOMMENDS that the County Council notes that there have been NO urgent decisions in the last two months.

**Tim Oliver, Leader of the Council
13 May 2022**