

AT A MEETING of the CABINET of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle on 26 March 2012.

Chairman:
p Councillor T. K. Thornber, CBE

Councillors:

a	K. Chapman	p	M.J. Kendal
p	C. Davidovitz	p	K. Mans
p	Dr. R. J. Ellis	p	R. Perry
p	Felicity Hindson, MBE (part)	p	S. Reid

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: B. Dash, P. Edgar, C. Leversha and M. Tucker.

327. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Chapman.

328. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a personal or prejudicial interest in any matter considered at the meeting declared that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, considered whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 12 of the code.

329. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2012 were confirmed as a correct record.

Arising thereon, the Cabinet heard that the County Council had been awarded 213,000 Euros by eco21 to explore combined heat and power, and that the award would fund much of the planned background work.

330. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that the Cabinet meeting on 30 April 2012 would be broadcast live on the County Council's website.

331. EFFICIENCY AND EXPENDITURE REDUCTION UPDATE: 2011/12 YEAR-END AND CONTRIBUTION TO 2012/13

Councillor S Reid declared a personal interest as an employee of an IT company. However, IT services were not specifically discussed during consideration of this matter.

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive (Item 5 in the Minute Book) on providing a progress update on a number of specific efficiency/transformation workstreams and outlining the delivery of the 2011/12 £55m efficiency programme and its contribution to the efficiencies needed in 2012/13.

In discussing the efficiency and expenditure reduction achievements of the previous year, the Cabinet paid tribute to County Council staff for embracing changes to working practices which had led to greater efficiency and protected frontline services during very challenging times. There were many examples of good outcomes achieved by more efficient working which benefited customers, external providers and the County Council. The Cabinet went on to discuss the move to more shared and sold services in the future which would increasingly contribute to the overall service costs for the Council. Finally, the Cabinet welcomed more innovative thinking in relation to grant requests from external organisations for procuring services which could be provided directly by the County Council.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

331. TRANSFORMING THE COUNCIL 2012-2015

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on the transformation of services delivered across the County Council beyond 2012. The Cabinet supported the approach outlined in the report, recognising the need to maintain the critical mass of highly skilled managers and staff and build commercial acumen in the organisation. The Cabinet welcomed opportunities to generate income from sold services which would inevitably lead to increased numbers of staff. However, the cost of this would be more than covered by the income generated.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report, subject to an additional resolution to receive a report on external competitors in relation to County Council service areas. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.

332. STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND DELIVERY

Councillor K Mans declared a personal interest as chairman of Air League. However, aviation was not specifically discussed during the course of consideration of this matter.

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 7 in the Minute Book) seeking approval for a revised approach to the County Council's work, with partners, on place shaping, in response to changes to the planning system and funding arrangements for strategic infrastructure. The Director explained that the Interim Strategic Infrastructure Statement appended to the report included infrastructure which was needed, but not necessarily all directly related to future development and therefore infrastructure which might be provided

through other funding, such as the County Council's capital programme was also reflected in the Statement.

The Cabinet welcomed the Statement which underpinned the importance of sustainable development supported by appropriate infrastructure. It was crucial therefore that close working be established between the County Council, local District Councils and the Local Enterprise Partnerships.

The Cabinet also discussed rail travel expressing concern that the Winchester to London line may not be sufficient for future growth of peak travel and suggested that a dialogue be encouraged between the County Council, Hampshire Senate and the Local Enterprise Partnership on potential solutions.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report, subject to an additional recommendation requesting a light touch feasibility study of rail infrastructure between London Waterloo and Weymouth be carried out by the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3.

333. UPDATE ON NHS REFORMS IN HAMPSHIRE

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive (Item 8 in the Minute Book) on the progress of the Government's proposals to reform the NHS in the Health and Social Care Bill 2010-12. The Assistant Chief Executive reported that the Bill had passed through the House of Lords recently and that royal assent was expected shortly. The Cabinet welcomed the significant opportunity to be more heavily involved in spending programmes and improved outcomes for people in terms of health and wellbeing.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 4.

334. PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSITION

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive and Director of Public Health (Item 9 in the Minute Book) on the public health responsibilities and functions that would transfer to Hampshire County Council in April 2013. The Assistant Chief Executive drew attention to the risks associated with the transfer and in particular it was noted that continuity of service provision must be maintained.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 5.

335. REVIEW OF ADULT SERVICES NON RESIDENTIAL CARE CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY IN RELATION TO SERVICE USERS WHO REQUIRE TWO CARERS

The Cabinet considered and approved a report of the Director of Adult Services (Item 10 in the Minute Book) on a review of the Adult Services Contributions Policy in relation to service users requiring two carers. The

Cabinet acknowledged a slight risk that the costs may not be contained within the agreed funding due to the rising demography and that this would be closely monitored.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 6.

335. REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE MODELS

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive (Item 11 in the Minute Book) on the terms of reference for the Governance review agreed at County Council in February 2012. The Chief Executive informed the Cabinet that the Secretary of State, in a recent letter to Local Authorities, had asked that any changes to governance arrangements be implemented with effect from the date of the Annual General Meeting.

In discussing the proposed terms of reference the Cabinet noted the need to be mindful of the Member/Officer relationship in relation to the options considered for alternative governance arrangements. The Cabinet also anticipated the future model would not impact on staffing and resources.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Dash addressed the Cabinet and assured Members that his intention, on raising the matter at the County Council meeting, was to help improve the quality of decision-making and increase the participation of Members.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 7.