

AT A MEETING of the Cabinet of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle on 22 July 2013.

Chairman:
p Councillor Roy Perry

Councillors:

p	Keith Chapman	p	Anna McNair Scott
p	Peter Edgar	p	Keith Mans
p	Liz Fairhurst	a	Stephen Reid
p	Andrew Joy	p	Seán Woodward
p	Mel Kendal		

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillors Ray Bolton, Andrew Gibson, Keith House, Patricia Stallard, Elaine Still and Pat West.

9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Stephen Reid.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore, all Members with a Non-Pecuniary Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting should consider whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5 Paragraph 2 of the Code, consider whether it is appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

11. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Cabinet meeting and acknowledging the hot weather, paid tribute to the County Council staff who were continuing to provide vital services in the heat. In particular he drew

attention to the work of the road gritting teams who were spreading crushed aggregate to prevent the tarmac from over-heating and keep roads open.

13. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Resources (Item 5 in the Minute Book) giving an update on the budget strategy development process for 2014/15 and 2015/16 and the medium term prospects for the County Council's finances.

It was noted that the County Council was obliged to develop a strategy to cope with the combination of inflation, demographic change and a reduction in Government grant. Cabinet was agreed that using reserves to cover revenue costs was not a sustainable or suitable response. The strategy outlined in the report was noted and it was agreed that strong, early action would close the funding gap.

With the agreement of the Chairman, Councillor Keith House made a statement on this item. He agreed that reserves should not be used to cover revenue deficits and that much of the reserves were already earmarked. However, noting the rising balances, he proposed that more could be done to stimulate the local economy with the money that was available, including through the County's influence on the schools' budget. He furthermore proposed greater diversification of income generation as a means of reducing costs could be achieved and offered his support to do so.

Cabinet Members noted that spend to save initiatives would be self-sustaining and not rely on reserves. The level of influence on schools' budgets through the Schools' Forum was also confirmed.

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

14. HAMPSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on progress made and proposals to adopt the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.

The report was outlined and it was confirmed that the Minerals and Waste Plan was a statutory requirement and that work had been undertaken with a number of other Authorities to generate a sustainable Plan, based on robust technical evidence. The process of Examination in Public and the role of the Inspector were clarified and the Inspector's conclusions were noted. It was confirmed that if the Plan was approved by all the relevant Authorities, it should be in place by October 2013.

With the agreement of the Chairman, Councillor Keith House made a statement on this item. He expressed concern about the implications for the Hamble area and the New Forest. He was particularly concerned about the

implications of Policy 20, and the ability to bring forward additional sites in the future.

Cabinet was re-assured that extensive consultation had identified the least worst sites, furthermore that considerable work had been done to reduce the throughput of gravel extraction. It was confirmed that Policy 20 provided long-term security of the ability to meet demand. It was noted that the Plan would also be periodically reviewed during its life, at which times any site issues would be fully considered.

The Director of Economy, Transport and Environment and his staff were thanked for their work on the Plan, as were those members of the public who contributed to the process.

The Cabinet approved the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.

15. DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE HEALTH SECTOR

The Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive (Item 7 in the Minute Book) on developing relationships with the Health Sector around accessibility and signposting of services.

The underlying need to develop capacity and address the challenges facing the County Council in the health and social care arena were highlighted and it was confirmed that this report sought to do that. The particular needs of Hampshire's aging population were also noted.

The Cabinet approved the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3.

16. PUBLIC HEALTH BUDGET

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Public Health (Item 8 in the Minute Book) on proposals for public health expenditure focussing on improving the health of Hampshire citizens.

It was confirmed that this report formalised the process of accountability for funding that had come to the County Council by virtue of its new responsibilities for public health. It was noted that only two years of funding was ring-fenced and therefore caution had been applied to any longer term commitments.

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

17. SUPPORTING TROUBLED FAMILIES IN HAMPSHIRE – YEAR 1

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) giving an update on the end of year position for Hampshire Supporting (Troubled) Families Programme.

The progress over the first year of the Programme was outlined to Cabinet, who noted the extensive work that had been undertaken with partners in the District Councils as well as the Fire and Police Services. It was explained that the experience gained in the first year would be used to further develop the Programme, in particular with regards the role of a multi-agency approach, the importance of individual family plans, the responsibilities of leadership, the complexity of issues facing families and the significance of mental health problems, substance misuse and employment opportunities. It was anticipated that in Year 2 a significant number of families would complete the Programme.

The Cabinet approved the recommendations set out in the report, with additional recognition of the contribution of partner organisations. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 5.