

AT A MEETING of the Cabinet of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle on 22 SEPTEMBER 2014.

**Chairman:**  
**p Councillor Roy Perry**

Councillors:

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

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillors R Bolton, C. Carter, A Gibson, A. McNair-Scott, P. Stallard and E. Still

**89. BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman announced that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast on the County Council's website and would be available for repeated viewing. The press and members of the public were also permitted to film and broadcast this meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

**90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Cabinet Members were in attendance.

**91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

**92. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**93. DEPUTATIONS**

No deputation requests had been received.

94. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed the outcome of the recent referendum on Scottish independence. He noted the high centralisation of power in England and hoped that the question of devolution to large and successful shire Counties, such as Hampshire would be considered. He confirmed that he would be writing to the Prime Minister on the matter and also inviting Hampshire's MPs to discuss the issue.

95. **HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN'S SERVICES OFSTED INSPECTION FEBRUARY – MARCH 2014**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Children's Services (item 6 in the Minute Book) regarding the outcomes of the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services for children in need of care and protection.

The report was outlined to Members and the depth of capacity within the department as well as an approach of zero tolerance of complacency were highlighted as key factors in achieving successful results from Ofsted. Cabinet welcomed the report, acknowledging that the department had been measured against new, tougher inspection criteria and the scale of success was recognised as to date no other Local Authority had achieved such high results under the new criteria. The context of increasing numbers of children in care and the financial pressures on the Authority were noted and it was agreed that financial prudence and efficiency had enabled Hampshire County Council to maintain high standards. The role of schools in the safeguarding of children was highlighted and the benefits of having maintained a strong "family" of schools in Hampshire despite the transition of many to being Academies was recognised.

In noting the "Outstanding" judgement for management performance, it was explained that this referred to the tiers of management amongst officers, but also to the strength of corporate leadership from the Executive Lead Member and from Cabinet as a whole and to the role of the Children and Young People Select Committee.

The recommendations set out in the report were considered and it was proposed and agreed that Cabinet additionally thank the Director and his staff for their work and performance. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

96. **ADULT SAFEGUARDING**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Adult Services (item 7 in the Minute Book) on the overarching policy for Adult Safeguarding in Hampshire and the work currently taking place to ensure delivery.

Cabinet was introduced to the report and the success of Hampshire County Council in taking action to meet increased numbers of referrals was noted. The responsibilities of the Authority with regards to the Care Act and in terms of Hampshire's position as a provider of services were explained. Some of the

reasons behind the increasing number of referrals were discussed and recognised. In particular it was noted that Britain suffered from relatively low levels of abuse of adults on an international scale.

The new requirement to undertake Deprivation of Liberty Orders was discussed. It was confirmed that this had cost the County Council approximately £750,000 so far and that there was a backlog of assessments still required. It was noted that this was a national pressure and was being managed by the department, however Cabinet were concerned about the cost implications and that the requirements had arisen as the result of a Court judgement and did nothing to improve outcomes for vulnerable people.

The recommendations within the report were proposed and agreed. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.