

AT A MEETING of the Cabinet of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle on 24 February 2014.

Chairman:
p Councillor Roy Perry

Councillors:

p	Keith Chapman	p	Mel Kendal
p	Peter Edgar	p	Keith Mans
a	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, J. Glen, P. Stallard, E. Still, P. West and S. Wheale

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Fairhurst.

49. 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.

50. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was noted that Councillor P. Stallard had attended the meeting on 7 February 2014 at the invitation of the Chairman.

With the above correction, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51. DEPUTATIONS

No deputation requests had been received.

52. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced his intention to bring item 7 (Community Resilience) on the agenda forward.

The Chairman gave Cabinet Members an update on recent flooding events in the County. He confirmed that meetings were being held with various partners, including the military to agree on going action and noted that the public had been appreciative of the efforts being made. Councillor Perry also confirmed that he would be involved in forthcoming national discussions regarding community resilience.

The recent LGA Peer Review was highlighted and it was noted that a report on the outcomes would be presented to Cabinet in due course. It was reported that an Ofsted inspection of the Children's Services department was underway and the outcomes of that would also be reported to Cabinet at a future meeting.

The Chairman updated Members on the progress of the Care Home closures that had been agreed at the December 2013 meeting. He also drew attention to the renovations taking place on the Great Hall and Council Chamber building, noting how this would extend their commercial use in the future.

53. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive and the Director, Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 7 in the Minute Book) reflecting on recent flooding events in Hampshire and considering how greater levels of resilience and different types of support could be given to communities in response to major weather issues.

Cabinet recognised the importance of considering resilience and of the value of multi-agency working, noting that this was an area that could potentially be developed through the Hampshire Partnership. The opportunity to identify and focus on the hotspots in order to limit the impact of future flooding was highlighted.

The process and potential funding for recovery was outlined and in particular Cabinet was updated on the possible recycling of sandbags and on the repair and re-opening of affected highways. It was confirmed that the majority of support for residents was routed through the relevant District Council in the first instance.

Two additional recommendations were proposed: that consideration be given to the wider distribution of self-help leaflets; and that Cabinet's appreciation of the efforts of members of the public, statutory partners, staff and contractors and the military be noted. With this in mind the recommendations were proposed and agreed. The decision record is attached to these minutes as appendix 1.

54. THIRD QUARTER BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Resources – Corporate Services (Item 6 in the Minute Book), reviewing the budget monitoring

position at the end of the third quarter and examining the monitoring of high risk / demand led budgets within Departments, and other central budget items that make up the overall revenue account.

The main areas of challenge, in particular with relation to Adult Social Care and Children's Services were highlighted. It was confirmed that the change programmes underway would result in on going savings to reduce the pressure in those departments in the longer term.

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

55. BETTER CARE FUND: THE NEXT STEPS

The Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive (Item 8 in the Minute Book), providing an update on the County Council's approach to the Better Care Fund, highlighting some key tasks and issues that need to be resolved.

It was confirmed that the proposals would lead to a formal agreement with the five CCGs and that the governance arrangements for this would be addressed in a future report. Cabinet Members acknowledged the importance of working with partners to ensure that money was spent effectively. It was also noted that this was designed to move to a real improvement in the co-ordination of service delivery.

It was clarified that the second recommendation was for £500,000 each year for the next three years. With this in mind, the recommendations were proposed and agreed. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3.

56. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Children's Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book), summarising the assessment, test and examination data for 2013 for Hampshire children in the early years; those in primary schools; those in secondary schools and students in post-16 education.

It was confirmed that the recent changed relationship with schools had not substantially changed the County Council's responsibility for educational performance. A number of the ways in which the Council was seeking to work with schools and governing bodies were highlighted.

The respective levels of performance for each of the Key Stages were outlined and a number of features relating to specific areas and socio-economic groups identified. In particular the relative weakness of some aspects of secondary performance was drawn to the attention of Cabinet and it was explained that support for secondary schools was a key priority of the school improvement service. Members discussed the performance results highlighted as well as a

number of other areas, including the significance of parental support and highly skilled staff in delivering improvements, the differences between different groups that make up the BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) category and the relative performance of boys and girls. Cabinet confirmed their commitment to supporting school achievement and praised the Children's Services department for their work in this area.

The recommendations in the report were proposed and agreed. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 4.