

Hampshire

At a Meeting of Hampshire County Council held at The Castle,
Winchester on 18 July 2013.

Chairman:

p Councillor Ken Thornber, CBE

Vice-Chairman:

p Councillor Colin Davidovitz

Councillor:	Councillor:
<i>p</i> Phil Bailey	<i>p</i> Andrew Joy
<i>p</i> John Bennison	<i>p</i> David Keast
<i>p</i> Ray Bolton	<i>p</i> Mark Kemp-Gee
<i>p</i> Ann Briggs	<i>p</i> Mel Kendal
<i>p</i> Graham Burgess	<i>p</i> Rupert Kyrle
<i>p</i> Rita Burgess	<i>p</i> Chris Lagdon
<i>p</i> Adam Carew	<i>p</i> Peter Latham
<i>p</i> Christopher Carter	<i>p</i> Warwick Lovegrove
<i>p</i> Roz Chadd	<i>a</i> Martin Lyon
<i>p</i> Keith Chapman	<i>p</i> Keith Mans
<i>p</i> Peter Chegwyn	<i>p</i> Fiona Mather
<i>p</i> Charles Choudhary	<i>p</i> Robin McIntosh
<i>p</i> Vaughan Clarke	<i>p</i> Anna McNair Scott
<i>p</i> Adrian Collett	<i>p</i> Andy Moore
<i>p</i> Criss Connor	<i>p</i> Frank Pearce
<i>p</i> Mark Cooper	<i>p</i> Roy Perry
<i>p</i> Ferris Cowper	<i>p</i> Jackie Porter
<i>p</i> Shaun Cully	<i>p</i> Roger Price, JP
<i>p</i> Alan Dowden	<i>p</i> Stephen Reid
<i>p</i> Peter Edgar	<i>p</i> Alan Rice, TD
<i>p</i> Jacqui England	<i>p</i> George Ringrow
<i>p</i> Keith Evans	<i>p</i> Steve Rippon-Swaine
<i>p</i> Liz Fairhurst	<i>p</i> Timothy Rolt
<i>p</i> Philip Fawkes	<i>p</i> Frank Rust
<i>p</i> Ray Finch	<i>p</i> David Simpson
<i>p</i> Jane Frankum	<i>p</i> Patricia Stallard
<i>p</i> Andrew Gibson	<i>p</i> Mark Staplehurst
<i>p</i> Jonathan Glen	<i>p</i> Elaine Still
<i>p</i> Chris Greenwood	<i>p</i> Bruce Tennent
<i>p</i> Brian Gurden	<i>a</i> Tom Thacker
<i>p</i> David Harrison	<i>p</i> Martin Tod
<i>p</i> Marge Harvey	<i>p</i> Malcolm Wade
<i>p</i> Edward Heron	<i>p</i> John Wall
<i>p</i> Geoff Hockley	<i>p</i> John West
<i>p</i> Tony Hooke	<i>p</i> Patricia West
<i>p</i> Keith House	<i>p</i> Sharyn Wheale
<i>p</i> Rob Humby	<i>a</i> Chris Wood
<i>p</i> Roger Huxstep	<i>p</i> Seán D. T. Woodward

14. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martin Lyon and Tom Thacker.

15. **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.

16. **MINUTES.**

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 23 May were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

17. **DEPUTATIONS.**

There were no deputations on this occasion.

18. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Chairman presented his report (Item 5 in the Minute Book) and expanded on the wide range of duties undertaken to represent and promote the County Council and its strong community leadership role. He welcomed the Honorary Aldermen who were in attendance and particularly highlighted a number of Hampshire people who had been recognised in the Queen's birthday honours list together with a number of engagements he had attended since becoming Chairman of the County Council. In relation to the his theme for the year – young carers, the Chairman asked Members to let him know of any individual in Hampshire who they felt would benefit from a weekend break away from their duties as a young carer.

For the benefit of new Members, the Chairman briefly outlined the procedures to be followed at County Council meetings.

The Chairman's full announcements are attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

19. **LEADER'S REPORT.**

The Leader reported on a number of matters that he wished to bring to Members attention including the continuing challenging economic circumstances that local government is operating within; the strategic partnership with the Isle of Wight Council to strengthen child protection and education services on the Island; an update on the Hampshire Broadband programme and highlighted a number of prestigious accolades awarded to the County Council. The Leader also reported on Armed Forces Week, which was marked by a flag raising ceremony in Winchester on 24 June and commended the work done by the armed forces community to protect the country and preserve the cause of freedom.

The Leader's full report is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.

20. **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 16.1.1.**

Questions submitted under Standing Order 16.1.1. are attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3.

21. **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ACT 2012: ESTABLISHMENT OF A HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD FOR HAMPSHIRE AND AMENDMENTS TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE HEALTH (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE.**

The Council considered a report from the Cabinet (Item 8 in the Minute Book) seeking approval of the Council to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) for Hampshire in accordance with the provisions of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The report also proposed amendments to the terms of reference for the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), in accordance with the Act, and sought agreement to delegate the County Council's health scrutiny function to the HOSC, to be reviewed within twelve months time.

Members welcomed the establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Board which introduced an element of democracy to the health arena and provides an opportunity to work collectively to achieve desired outcomes for the communities of Hampshire. It was noted that the membership of the Board would be dealt with at Item 9 on the agenda and that this would include up to two District/Borough Council Members together with a Chief Executive who would represent all District/Borough Council Members. This provided increased representation from the District/Borough Councils than that of the former Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. Members expressed their desire for the membership of this important committee to be as inclusive as possible and the Leader would undertake discussions with the Chairman of the Board in the fullness of time.

RESOLVED:

That the County Council:

- (a) Approves the establishment of the Health and Wellbeing Board for Hampshire and terms of reference of the HWBB, as set out at Appendix 1 of the Cabinet report.
- (b) Agrees the delegation of the County Council's Health Scrutiny function to the Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee (subject to review within twelve months), and the revised terms of reference of the Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee, as set out at Appendix 2 of the Cabinet Report.
- (c) Delegates authority to the Head of Governance to amend the Constitution to give effect to the Recommendations at (a) and (b).

22. **APPOINTMENTS.**

The Council considered a report from the Chief Executive (Item 9 in the Minute Book) together with an Addendum to the report (Item 9x in the Minute Book), presented by the Leader, proposing appointments to the newly established Health and Wellbeing Board for Hampshire together with Substitute Members and proposed the appointment of Councillor Keith Mans as Chairman of the Board, the appointment of Substitute Members and a number of alterations to the membership of the committees and panels of the County Council.

It was noted that it was not possible to appoint a full complement of Substitute Members to the committees and panels of the County Council and further appointments would be made at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the County Council:

- (a) Approves the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board for Hampshire and Substitute Members, as detailed in the supporting report and addendum.
- (b) Approves the appointment of Councillors Keith Mans, Anna McNair Scott and Liz Fairhurst as the County Council's representatives on the Health and Wellbeing Board for Hampshire and that Councillor Keith Mans be appointed as Chairman of the Board.
- (c) Approves the appointment of Substitute Members to the Committees and Panels of the County Council as set out in the supporting report and addendum.

- (d) Approves the alterations to the membership of committees and panels of the County Council as set out in paragraph 7 of the supporting report and paragraph 3 of the addendum to that report and noting that the appointment of Nikki Horns as a co-opted member of the River Hamble Harbour Board is for a 4 year period.

Exceptionally, the Chairman invited the newly appointed Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, Councillor Keith Mans to speak at this point of the proceedings. The Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board emphasised the important role this committee had in relation to achieving the right outcomes for the communities of Hampshire and quoted Ambition 3 of the recently published report of Professor Sir Bruce Keogh KBE that “patients, carers and members of the public will increasingly feel like they are being treated as vital and equal partners in the design and assessment of their local NHS. They should also be confident that their feedback is being listened to and see how this is impacting on their own care and the care of others”.

23. **CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES ARISING OUT OF THE REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME – INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE.**

The Council considered a report from the Pension Fund Panel (Item 10 in the Minute Book), and presented by the Chairman of the Panel, seeking approval of the Panel’s recommendations arising from a review of the internal dispute resolution procedure in relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the County Council:

- (a) Approves the use of the County Council’s Monitoring Officer (or Deputy) to hear future Stage 2 appeals on behalf of the County Council as Administering Authority.
- (b) Gives authority to the Head of Governance to make suitable amendments to the Constitution to give effect to the recommendation at (a).

24. **2012/13 – END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT.**

The Council considered a report from the Cabinet (Item 11 in the Minute Book) setting out the end of year financial position for 2012/13 and the annual report on the exercise of the treasury management function and the prudential indicators relating to the 2012/13 outturn.

RESOLVED:

That the County Council approves the recommendations of the Cabinet

together with the annual report on the exercise of the treasury management function and the accompanying prudential indicators.

25. **NOTICE OF MOTION.**

The Council considered the Motion (Item 12 in the Minute Book) submitted in accordance with Standing Order 18.1, proposed by Councillor Patricia Stallard and seconded by Councillor Chris Carter:

“This Council notes that the recommendations on proposals for the fluoridation of drinking water in Southampton and South West Hampshire, as agreed by all political groups at full Council on 20th November 2008, Item 9, Minute 345, remain still to be addressed. Accordingly the Council reaffirms its position, primarily that the addition of fluoride to water supplies is not adopted until such time that clear evidence of benefit and no harm from mass medication has been established and that Public Health England be advised accordingly.”

Councillor Stallard moved the Motion and Councillor Carter reserved his right to speak later in the proceedings.

The Leader reminded Members that by virtue of changes introduced into the Water Industry Act in consequence of the Health and Social Care act, it had been established that responsibility for decision making on Fluoridation Schemes now rests with Local Authorities. Whilst transitional provisions are included in the Health and Social Care Act to save fluoridation arrangements already in existence prior to 1 April 2013, the status of the previous fluoridation proposals of the South Central Strategic Health Authority is unclear. As a result of this lack of clarity, the Leader confirmed that the County Council had taken a QC’s advice which was that for fluoridation arrangements to be in force, which would continue to exist after 1 April 2013, there would need to be completed and effective contractual arrangements (including all necessary terms), between South Central Southern Health Authority and Southern Water. The Leader confirmed that by the date of this meeting the County Council was yet to receive evidence that the necessary contractual arrangements were in place. On this basis, the County Council’s Monitoring Officer had advised that the County Council should avoid the possibility of a pre-determined position in relation to this matter. In view of this advice and the emerging legal position, which suggests that the County Council needs to review the extent and existence of earlier decisions by other organisations, the Leader proposed that the Motion, as moved, be withdrawn.

At the Chairman’s invitation, the Chief Executive confirmed that further investigations into the matter were underway, however the position was unclear. In response to a request from Members, the Chief Executive reported that a paper could be brought to the next meeting if the position crystallizes in the next few weeks.

The proposal to withdraw the Motion was supported by the mover of the Motion, Councillor Stallard and the seconder, Councillor Carter.

RESOLVED:

That in light of the emerging legal position the County Council agreed that the Motion as moved be withdrawn.

26. HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY.

No questions had been received pursuant to Standing Order 16.3. The report of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Item 13 in the Minute Book) was received.

27. POLICY AND RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE (ANNUAL REPORT)

The Council received the annual report of the Policy and Resources Select Committee (Item 14 in the Minute Book) providing an update on the work of the County Council's Select Committees covering the period April 2012 to March 2013.

In presenting the report, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Select Committee acknowledged the work and commitment of all the Select Committees in the discharge of their duties, the Chairmen, Members of the Committees, past and present, and the officers supporting the Committees.

28. HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (ANNUAL REPORT)

The Council received the annual report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Item 15 in the Minute Book) providing an update on the work of the County Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee covering the period from April 2012 to March 2013.

In presenting the report the Chairman of the Committee acknowledged the work and commitment of Members of the Committee, past and present.

29. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION.

The Council received the reports (Items 16a – 16d in the Minute Book) of the following Executive Members and Chairmen:

- a) Executive Member for Policy and Resources:
 - Crescent Primary School, Eastleigh
 - Nightingale Primary School, Eastleigh
 - The Westgate School, Winchester

- b) Executive Member for Adult Social Care:
 - Single tender approval for Older Person's Day Services and permission for a competitive tend for Older Person's Day Services
 - Procurement of services at proposed Oak Park Health and Wellbeing Campus Development

- c) Executive Lead Member for Children's Services:
 - Strategic Partnership for the delivery of Children's Services for the Isle of Wight Council

- d) Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
 - Public consultation on highway proposals for Newgate Lane and Peel Common, Fareham and western access to Gosport

(The meeting closed at 12.53 pm).

**Chairman's Announcements
County Council Meeting
18 July 2013**

May I welcome on your behalf those Honorary Aldermen who have graced us with their presence today. Thank you for your support.

Young Carers

I recently had a meeting with Steve Crocker, Deputy Director of Children's Services, regarding my Young Carers theme. As a result of this meeting I have agreed for plans to be put in place for Young Carers to spend a weekend at Calshot Activities Centre during the latter part of October.

Members, if you know of any individual in Hampshire and particularly in your own Divisions who are, in your opinion, worthy of a weekend break from their duties as a Young Carer, please bring them to my attention.

Queen's Birthday Honours

A number of people from Hampshire were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June. I would like to mention Tony Lau-Walker, Chief Executive Officer, Eastleigh College, who was awarded a CBE for his services to further education.

Professor Monique Simmonds JP Chairman of Hilliers Garden Advisory Committee was awarded an OBE for services to horticultural sciences and the community.

Ann Craig, Chairman of Governors at All Saints Church of England Primary School in Highcliffe, was awarded an MBE for her services to education and the community in Winchester.

There was also an honour for Lindsay Garrett Fox, Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire and High Sheriff in 1997-98, who has worked in the voluntary sector her whole life. Mrs Fox was awarded an MBE for services for charity.

Recognition was also given to Major Michael Gordon Vokes TD who received an MBE for services to the Combined Cadet Force in Hampshire.

Engagements

It is not that long since you elected me as your Chairman in May but you will see from the list of engagements circulated to you all via email prior to this meeting that much has happened. I have been fairly busy! Some of the many highlights which I would like to mention include:

- 2 June – The County Service to mark the 60th anniversary of the Coronation of the Queen in Winchester Cathedral.
- 4 June – I hosted a reception to mark the 33rd Winchester Writers Conference
- 13 June - Lin, and I were privileged guests of Princess Cruises in Southampton for an onboard dinner, followed by the Naming Ceremony of the Royal Princess by HRH The Duchess of Cambridge.
- 24 June – Flag Raising
- 5 July – The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Gold Reception
- 9 July – HRH The Duchess of Cornwall Centenary Border Opening at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens
- 16 July – HRH The Princess Royal, Opening of Havant Plaza Civic Centre

Vice Chairman

I want to thank the Vice Chairman for all his support and help. Councillor Colin Davidovitz has represented me on a number of engagements since May.

Long Service Awards

Please note that the 25 Years’ Long Service Awards Reception will take place in The Great Hall on the 3rd September at 6.30pm. I do hope that most Members will be able to attend to recognise great service to the people of Hampshire.

Officers’ who have qualified for 40 Years’ Long Service Awards have been offered a choice of three dates (21 August, 4 September and 12 September) when I will be hosting a presentation and tea party in Serle’s House commencing 3.30pm.

Meeting with the South Downs National Park Authority on 19 September 2013

The Director of Economy, Transport and the Environment has asked me to draw to Members attention that the Chief Executive of the South Downs National Park Authority has requested a meeting with Members of the County Council to discuss the work that has been underway on the preparation of their statutory Plans. The Plans set out the vision and framework for how the national park will grow and develop over the next 20 years.

The central purpose of the meeting is to consider the main areas of overlap between the interests of the County Council and those of the National Park Authority. This will enable the County Council and the National Park Authority to align their work more effectively.

The meeting will take place 45 minutes after the finish of the County Council meeting on 19 September 2013, and will be held in Ashburton Hall in Queen Elizabeth II podium.

County Council Procedures

For the benefit of new Members, I want to outline the procedure for conducting our business.

First there are 4 types of discussion other than the half hour we devote to written questions to the Executive or Chairmen of Committees.

These are:

- Questions on a Part 1 or Part 2 item
- Debate on a Part 1 or Part 2 item
- Amendment to a recommendation on a Part 1 item
- Motions to commit the Council to a course of action

In respect of Questions and Debate on Part 1 and Part 2 items, the following procedure will be followed, noting that Part 1 items are for decision and Part 2 items are for noting.

I shall call out each paragraph of the item under consideration and ask whether there are any questions on it.

Members will indicate they wish to ask a question on that paragraph by raising their hand and saying "question Chairman".

I will then call each questioner by name and he/she will rise and put their question succinctly and without engaging in comment. Upon hearing the reply the member is entitled to call for a debate by rising and saying "debate Chairman".

Once questions have been exhausted it is open to any member to call for a debate whether they have put a question or not. They too must rise and say "debate Chairman".

An amendment to a recommendation must be in writing, and moved and seconded, and the member shall give notice of that amendment to the Chairman and members, before the item in question is reached. There will be no questions and we will proceed to debate.

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The mover of a motion shall give the requisite written notice of 10 working days and after this is moved and seconded, the council will proceed to debate in accordance with our constitution, and its time limits.

END

**Leader's Report
County Council
18 July 2013**

Firstly I wish to advise the Council that Councillor Carew has indicated to the Chief Executive his wish to join the Conservative Group and as is required by the relevant Statute I have indicated the willingness of the Conservative Group to accept Cllr Carew into our midst. We are a welcoming and inclusive Group and the door is open to others who may wish to join us

Comprehensive Review Response

Members will know that the Government has continuing need to address the nation's difficult economic circumstances and consequently yet again Local Government has had to take cuts in its grants, indeed some of the hardest hits of any sector in the Comprehensive Spending Review.

I don't believe any of us relish this but bringing public expenditure under control is something that had to be faced up to and in Hampshire I am determined we will do it as far as possible while still protecting front line services. "As far as possible" is the key phrase.

The cuts to revenue support grant from Government, amount to £32.2M for Hampshire. On top of that there are inflationary pressures and demographic changes - more elderly people and more children. Demand for services continues to grow, in particular for adult social care and all this means our target for savings up to 2015 is actually around £80M.

Fortunately Hampshire is in a strong position to tackle the further reductions in Government grant. Thanks to prudent planning and investments over a sustained period of time and by using savings carefully we will seek to transform services to be a provider of modern, efficient and sustainable services for the future.

We have managed so far to avoid any urgent or drastic decisions to address the budget deficit that has seen some councils having to stop some services altogether. We will build on the success of our budgeting to date to plan the next stages to align our spending to our available resources.

We have to live within our means just as all prudent residents do. These are difficult times but our existing success in reducing the costs of our services puts us in a strong position for the future, much stronger than many other authorities.

Our challenge now is to look at how the Council can build on income opportunities, partnering and sharing and using our new public health duties,

while continuing high performance. As I said at the annual meeting I want to maintain and enhance the prosperity of Hampshire residents, the quality of the environment and our services, supporting economic growth and keeping council tax bills as low as possible. That remains the aim.

If we don't reduce our spending we would quickly exhaust the reserves. The majority of the reserves are fully committed to being spent in revenue and capital programmes and are in no way 'spare'. Rather than using reserves to prop up the budget on a short term basis, which would be folly, we are using reserves to generate savings and improve services over the longer term by redesigning services and investing in technology and other solutions that make services more modern and efficient. I will come back to that.

Flag Raising Ceremony to the Armed Forces in Hampshire

As the Chairman has reported Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council marked Armed Forces Week with a flag raising ceremony in Winchester on 24th June. The ceremony included a military band leading a Tri-Service march past through Winchester city centre.

It is important to show our debt of gratitude for the contributions and sacrifices of the armed forces community and all that they do to protect our country and serve the cause of freedom. Last week we said farewell to Brigadier Neill Baverstock on his retirement from the Army and wish him well in his new role as Yeoman Usher i.e. Deputy Black Rod, in the Houses of Parliament. It is good to have friends in high places. I have also met with Brigadier Andrew Hughes his successor as liaison officer and I am sure our good relationship with all 3 armed services based in Hampshire will continue.

Hampshire County Council designers scoop national awards

As usual our officers have continued to win prestigious awards and

An RIBA Regional Award 2013 and RIBA South East Sustainability Award have been awarded to the Council's Property Services Department for their work to design the Runways End Outdoor Activity Centre in Aldershot. That is a facility well worth visiting.

Hampshire agrees strategic partnership terms with Isle of Wight

This Council has approved the terms of a ground breaking strategic partnership with the Isle of Wight Council, designed to strengthen child protection and education services on the Island.

This Agreement is a significant opportunity for both authorities. For our part, we have the chance to offer assistance and develop an area of work as an extension of our capacity. We will support the Isle of Wight Council without compromising our responsibilities and services for children and young people in Hampshire and without any impact on the County Council's budgets. I have met with Ministers as has Councillor Mans and I know the Government is

showing great confidence in this Council and Ministers are grateful for the support we are offering the Island. They have even contributed £0.5 million towards the task.

Investor in Careers Award

Hamble Community Sports College has achieved national recognition after receiving a quality award for its careers education.

With support from Hampshire Careers and Employability Service, Hamble Community Sports College provides careers education for its 1000 students and their parents and carers. Students are given good advice and guidance about the subjects they choose to study, and numbers of students who are not in education, employment or training when they leave are very low.

Youth unemployment drops

The latest economic data shows signs that Hampshire's economy is picking up and youth unemployment is dropping.

After registering the highest level of business activity in this part of the South East at the end of last year, business activity in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has continued to expand this year. The latest data shows that in May growth in the region expanded for the fifth consecutive month and is increasing at its fastest pace for over a year. The volume of new business in the South East is increasing more rapidly than at any time since January 2012.

The number of young unemployed people (16-24 year olds) in Hampshire fell by 7.5% between April and May, which meant that the overall youth unemployment rate dropped from 3.2% to 2.9%.

The County Council and its partners have been working hard to build on Hampshire's economic strengths, bring investment into the county, encourage new business and drive regeneration. We are helping young people get that first step on the employment ladder by expanding our apprenticeship scheme to employ up to 1,000 new apprentices over the next five years.

To maintain this momentum and continue future sustainable growth, it is critical that Hampshire's businesses and entrepreneurs have access to the infrastructure and skills they need. 'Invest in Hampshire' is one of our initiatives which positions the county as a leading investment location and provides all the support that new businesses need to relocate to Hampshire and create local jobs.

I mentioned in my last announcements the potential to do more of our own business using IT and new technologies which I know many of you like me use extensively. I am grateful for all who responded but I am afraid, there was not universal agreement to this proposal, and for good reason. I am therefore

going to leave the matter (for his sins) in the hands of my Deputy to further develop these proposals and look to bring forward proposals later this year.

Whilst dealing with IT I want to update you on the Broadband programme in Hampshire and make an important new announcement.

We will shortly sign off the detailed implementation plans for the early phases of work under our contractual arrangements with BT Group which tasks them to extend superfast broadband coverage to 90% of premises in Hampshire by rolling out a high speed network; that is to say an infrastructure capable of delivering speeds over 24Mbps in line with the national framework agreed by DCMS. Under the current plans, all other premises (the final 10%) will be able to access broadband at speeds of at least 2Mbps.

But in my view we need to do more. I want to advise you that I have asked the Chief Executive to begin preparations to further expand the proposed coverage and to identify how we can increase the speed and function of the original proposals to be funded by the County Council. With these proposals coming on top of the existing plans we aim to put Hampshire at the very high end of coverage and performance criteria of any County in England.

This will be one of the most significant investments we will make in economic terms in the life of the Council for the benefit of young, old, families, rural, urban, learning and business. For obvious reasons Members details of the commercial considerations and proposals will require to be confidential but I know many Members will wish to know of this intent and while it will be some months before we can do the detailed technical work with and through the relatively complicated procurement routes, I hope you will all agree that the intent. I want by the end of this administration for all Hampshire be in the 'premier league' on broadband across the nation and well beyond the Government's new target of 24 Mbps for 95% of premises by 2017.

Arrangements will be made on the conclusion of this new procurement exercise for the capital programme to be adjusted. This will be a new multi-million pound investment but that is precisely what I think the reserves are for-to invest in the future.

END

**COUNTY COUNCIL
18 JULY 2013**

**QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER
16.1.1**

First Questions:

1. Councillor Pat West to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources:

Can you tell Members what the Hampshire County Council position is regarding Superfast Broadband coverage to the villages and rural areas?

2. Councillor Alan Dowden to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care:

Would the Executive Member for Adult Social Care inform the Council how many Hampshire County Council home care visits, of 15 minutes or less, take place each day?

3. Councillor Ray Bolton to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services:

Would the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services inform the Council on the first year of the 'Supporting Troubled Families Programme in Hampshire', how many of the Year 1 cohort of the over 500 families identified under this Programme have progressed on successfully to achieving the positive life style changes leading to them being removed from under the Programme?

4. Councillor Martin Tod to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment:

Network Rail's draft London and South East Market Study - which is intended to show rail demand for the next 30 years - doesn't have the word Hampshire in it. The final deadline for responding to their consultation is 26 July 2013. What response is the administration planning to make?

5. Councillor Jackie Porter to the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

What changes in the arrangements for countryside works and footpath cutting have been made in 2013 and how does the Culture, Recreation and Countryside department respond effectively to the public? This question is asked in light of the varying growth patterns due to weather

changes this year and the now greatly reduced labour force of the countryside department.

Second Questions:

6. Councillor Martin Tod to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment:

What plans does the Council have to get walking routes, cycling routes and, particularly, public transport details onto the most popular and most heavily used mapping and route-finding services like Google Maps, Open Street Map and Apple Maps?