

AT A MEETING of the CABINET of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle on 17 December 2012.

Chairman:
p Councillor T. K. Thornber, CBE

Councillors:

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

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillors R. Bolton, G. Burgess, P. Edgar, K. Evans, L. Fairhurst, C. Leversha and M. Tucker.

390. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Dr, R. J. Ellis who was recovering following surgery, and Cllr C. Davidovitz who was engaged on County Council business elsewhere.

391. **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 at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in 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 Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

392. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2012 were confirmed as a correct record.

393. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

394. **HAMPSHIRE STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT VERSION 1 (DECEMBER 2012)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 5 in the Minute Book) seeking approval of the Hampshire Strategic Infrastructure Statement for 2012, which followed approval of the Interim Statement in March 2012. The Director explained that the proposed Statement built on the interim statement presented to Cabinet in March 2012. It was the County Council's identification of infrastructure required in the future to support planned growth but was not a commitment of the County Council to fund or deliver the infrastructure listed. The Statement had been updated significantly and included infrastructure needs identified by Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service, Hampshire Constabulary and the Primary Care Trust. It was proposed that the document be kept under review and published on an annual basis.

Responding to questions, the Director explained that the Statement appeared to show a significant shortfall in potential funding and in the main this was due to the Statement covering a much longer period (20 years) than the County Council and other organisations budgeting periods. The Director also advised that there were a number of tools available to the County Council to secure development funding. S106 agreements, whilst restricted, could still be used in some cases to secure funding to enable the County Council to continue to be a legal partner in securing developer funding for larger scale developments. In more dispersed developments S106 would no longer be practical and in those circumstances the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would be the only mechanism for securing funding. However, S278 agreements could also be used for securing funding for highways related works arising from new development.

The Cabinet welcomed the Statement which would provide a good evidence base for required infrastructure associated with future development. The Cabinet requested some additions to the Statement including a section on broadband provision for new development, which would be particularly important for the future economic development of the county including retaining existing, and attracting new, business into Hampshire. The Cabinet also asked for the information on National Parks to be set out separately rather than included within District sections, and for the section on extra care accommodation to be strengthened as appropriate to reflect the desire to achieve optimum use of housing stock by providing options for older people to support the release of existing housing currently occupied by older people, but which may not now best meet their housing need.

The Cabinet resolved that officers strengthen the report in the areas of broadband provision, role of national parks and provision of extra care accommodation and authorised the Leader of the Council to approve the Statement for publication and from time to time as circumstances dictated. The Cabinet further resolved that the Leader of the Council write to the Secretaries of State for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on the question of broadband

infrastructure and the necessity to specify such infrastructure at local plan formulation stage.

The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

395. **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN HAMPSHIRE: HAMPSHIRE'S YOUTH INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Children's Services (Item 6 in the Minute Book) seeking agreement for more detailed work on a scheme to recruit 1000 apprentices or interns into the County Council from September 2013-18, and to agree more detailed work on a scheme to provide scholarships for Hampshire undergraduates within the same timeframe.

The Director explained that the proposals would equate to an additional 1000 young people being brought into the County Council's employment through apprenticeships. The proposed support to undergraduates would be in areas where skills were needed within the County Council, and although there was much detailed work to be done on the detail it was anticipated that there would be a propensity to support those students who would find the costs of further education prohibitive. The Director also explained that this was a whole County Council initiative which would necessitate only minor structural changes but major cultural changes across the organisation with considerable investment of time in young people including mentoring.

The Cabinet welcomed the proposals in principle and emphasised the County Council's social responsibility, particularly as a large employer, to help young people secure employment and the County Council's special responsibility for children in care and care leavers. During the discussion, the Cabinet made the following comments:

- Apprentices should be given priority when filling vacancies at grades A-C, and trained staff should be employed for grades D and above.
- The undergraduate scheme should support 10 young people and consideration should be given to providing 12 weeks work during non-term term, rather than only eight weeks.
- Priority should be given to young people who would otherwise be deterred due to family finances and should be supported fully at a university of their choice.
- An understanding of where within the organisation the existing apprentices are employed would be helpful.
- A skills audit would be helpful in anticipating future skill needs across the organisation.
- The intention of internship plus should be to assist children in care and care leavers only.
- An understanding of funding provided by universities and the Government would be helpful to avoid duplication.
- Further consideration should be given to the length and type of university course the County Council would support.

The Chief Executive explained that the County Council currently had very successful training and development programmes for its staff, and the

proposals would build on the success of existing provision. Government programmes were good but time-limited whereas these proposals would ensure employment for young people. Now was the time to expand on the success of the existing apprenticeship schemes.

The Cabinet noted the report and asked for a more detailed report to be presented to Cabinet at a future meeting, taking into account the comments made during the meeting. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.

396. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources (Item 7 in the Minute Book) on the latest position in respect of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the issues in respect of the development of the 2013/14 budget. The Director confirmed that the County Council's strategy of achieving four years grant reductions in two years would allow time to plan to continue to deliver transformational change for what was expected to be an extended period of reduced government funding.

The Cabinet noted the report and confirmed the acceptance of the Council Tax Freeze Grant for 2013/14 which would keep Council Tax at the same level for the fourth consecutive year. The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3.

397. QUARTER TWO BUDGET MONITORING 2012/13

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director Corporate Resources (Item 8 in the Minute Book) outlining the key issues arising from budget monitoring in the second quarter of 2012/13.

In respect of the Adult Services finances, the Cabinet acknowledged the increased costs associated with earlier discharge from hospital and the resulting increased provision of home care. The Cabinet felt that better investment from the NHS on community healthcare to ensure appropriate support when discharging people for home care would be beneficial.

The Cabinet adopted the recommendations set out in the report and congratulated County Council staff on savings achieved. The decision record is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 4.