



CABINET

MINUTES of a MEETING held at COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE on 30th October 2007.

Mrs JA Scott	Leader of the Council
Mr J Thomson	Deputy Leader and Member for Community Services
Mr ML Baker	Member for Staffing and Customer Care
Mrs NS Bryant	Member for Education and Youth Development
Mrs MJ Douglas	Member for Culture, to include Libraries and Heritage
Mr JC Noeken	Member for ICT, Procurement and Partnerships
Miss MF de Rhé-Philipe	Member for Environment, Transport & Economic Development
Mr TR Sturgis	Member for Planning & Waste
Mrs B Wayman	Member for Children and Families

Mr AN Deane, Mrs MEM Groom, Mr A Molland, Mr JB Osborn and Mr IC West also attended.

106. **Apologies** No apologies were received.

107. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved: To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2007.

108. **Members' Interests** No interests were declared.

109. **Public Participation** A number of members of the public attended the meeting in relation to Minute No. 110 below including the following persons who either addressed the Cabinet or submitted questions/statements for consideration:-

Mrs Anne Henshaw – Chairman of North Wiltshire and Swindon CPRE
Mrs Charmian Spickernell
Mr Angus Ivory
Lady Inchcape
Mr Geoff Yates
Mr George McDonic – CPRE
Lynne Pryde
Jannah Khan
Yvonne Prickett

110. **Swindon Southern Development Area – Croft Road to Hay Lane Link – M4 Motorway Junction 16 – Condition 99** The Cabinet received a report by the Director of Environmental Services which

advised Members that in his opinion the technical requirements for the discharge of Condition 99 had now been achieved and that the local planning authority, Swindon Borough Council, could be advised accordingly.

Mrs Groom, the local County Councillor, read a statement which was circulated at the meeting urging Cabinet Members not to agree to the discharge of Condition 99 on the grounds that;-

- (i) outstanding road safety and highway layout issues were still not resolved;
- (ii) the proposed width of carriageway does not allow for the increased traffic flow as well as non-motorised and public transport usage according to Government policy
- (iii) the increased congestion on local roads is a material consideration.

The Leader emphasised that it was important when considering the discharge of Condition 99 to concentrate on those issues which related specifically to that Condition. The Leader confirmed that she had already written to the Leader of Swindon Borough Council on the wider concerns of the local people as a result of the representations made to Cabinet on 22 November 2006 and she would do this again following this meeting.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Waste in responding to the concerns of both the public and the local Member, highlighted the one area where there were outstanding concerns and that was the provision for non-motorised users of the road. In view of this he moved and it was

Resolved:

(i) To agree that:-

(a) the submitted plans, indicating the developer's best ability to meet Condition 99's requirement 'to incorporate specific features to facilitate use by public transport, pedestrians, vulnerable users and cyclists' fall short of the expectations embodied within national, regional and local transport policies to provide facilities to encourage sustainable transport modes;

(b) although the anticipated number of non-motorised users might be predicted to be low in proportion to other users, the facilities indicated will not encourage such users, it will afford them a hostile environment, will not provide signal controls at all carriageway crossing areas, and can only provide a relatively tortuous route through the main alterations at the south side of the junction;

and that for these reasons considers that the developer's proposals for the provision of facilities for non-motorised users at J.16 do not meet the requirement of Condition 99 and consequently considers that Swindon Borough Council should not discharge Condition 99.

(ii) To agree that the Leader should write again to the Leader of Swindon Borough Council outlining the concerns of local residents on the wider issues relating to the Southern Development Area and its impact on the local traffic infrastructure.

Reason for Proposal

For the reasons outlined in (a) and (b) above.

111. **Capital, Revenue Budget and Service Standards Monitoring – August 2007** The Cabinet received a report by the Chief Financial Officer which set out the budget monitoring position for August 2007.

An updated Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement for the period ending 30 September 2007 was also circulated at the meeting. The Chief Financial Officer reported that these updated figures indicated that the projected overspend would be reduced to £0.181 million at year end.

Mr Molland, the Chairman of the Budget Scrutiny Task Group reported that he was pleased with the updated figures and the reduction in the projected overspend. He also reported on the ongoing activity of the budget fact finding meetings and questioned when the seminar on budget priorities for 2008/09 would be arranged.

The Cabinet Members for Children and Families and Community Services reported in more detail on the budget projections within their portfolio areas.

Resolved:

(i) To note the reduced projected revenue budget overspend of £0.181 million as predicted at 30 September 2007.

(ii) To note the projected level of balances of £6.388 million.

(iii) To note the current projected variation in the capital programme of £28,000 in 2007-08.

(iv) To note the use of delegated powers in relation to the capital programme as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.

(v) To approve the virements listed in paragraph 15 of the report.

(vi) To note the progress that has been made on the Wiltshire Academy Project and to note the appropriate risks that have been taken on this project at this early stage.

Reason for Proposal

To inform the Cabinet of the current budget position, spending pressures and the implications for general balances.

112. **The Financial Plan 2008/09** The Cabinet received a report by the Chief Financial Officer which presented the Draft Financial Plan for discussion.

Resolved: To note the 2008-09 Draft Financial Plan of £240.005m and to agree and adopt this as a Financial Plan for use by Chief Officers in developing draft service and revenue budgets for financial year 2008-09.

Reason for Proposal

To give Chief Officers a resource guideline within which to develop budget proposals and associated activity levels and service standards for each service for 2008-09.

113. **Partial Review of the Rural Spatial Strategy – Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Provision – Formal Consultation** The Cabinet received a report by the Director of Environmental Services which requested agreement to the formal response of the County Council to the partial review of the Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West 2006-26 (RSS) pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers in the South West for submission to the Examination in Public.

Resolved:

(i) To approve the comments made at paragraphs 12 to 17 of the report to form the County Council's response to the RSS Revision consultation and be submitted to the Examination in Public (EIP) Panel.

(ii) To authorise the Director of Environmental Services to take these comments forward and represent the interests of the County Council through the EIP process.

Reason for Proposal

To ensure an appropriate level of provision for Gypsies and Travellers is made for Wiltshire within the RSS to ensure that the need for new pitches is met and to reduce the potential for unauthorised encampments.

114. **Corporate Parenting Policy For Looked After Children And Young People in Wiltshire** The Cabinet received a report by the Director of Children and Education which presented the proposed Corporate Parenting Policy for Looked After Children for approval.

Members were aware that the Corporate Parenting Group had been considering the development of a Policy since November 2006.

Resolved:

To support and endorse the production of a Corporate Parenting Policy and to recommend the policy's adoption by the County Council on 6 November and that the policy be included as part of the Council's Policy Framework and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.

Reason for Proposal

Legislation and guidance following on from the Children Act 1989 emphasises the Local Authority's role as 'Corporate Parent' to children and young people in care. This duty is further reinforced in the White Paper 'Care Matters: Time for Change' (June 2007). The existence of a Wiltshire policy statement serves to support the Council's commitment to this duty of care.

115. **Every Wiltshire Young Person Matters – Response to Government's 10 Year Strategy for Young People** The Cabinet received a report by the Director of Children and Education which informed Members of the publication of the Government's ten year strategy for young people and a proposed response to that strategy on behalf of the Council.

A copy of the draft vision statement and strategy document for Wiltshire was circulated at the meeting.

Members of the Cabinet agreed that rather than providing an information seminar for Members on this matter, the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Development would update Members of the Council at the forthcoming meeting on 6 November 2007.

Resolved:

(i) To note this report and the draft vision and strategy document.


(ii) To request the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Development to update Members at the forthcoming Council meeting on the implications of 'Aiming high for young people'.

(ii) To approve the delegation of responsibility for completing the Connexions business transfer documentation to the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Development.

Reasons for Proposal

These proposals are presented to enable the Council to respond constructively to the challenges presented by the ten year strategy, and the creation of an effective and integrated service for young people.

(Duration of meeting: 11.00 am - 12.25pm)

Please note that matters defined as 'Key' decisions and included in the Forward Plan are shown thus .

These decisions were published on 1 November 2007 and will come into force on 8 November 2007

The Officer who has produced these minutes is John Quinton, of Democratic & Members' Services, direct line 713054 or e-mail johnquinton@wiltshire.gov.uk

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