


CABINET

MINUTES of a MEETING held in KENNET ROOM - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN on Tuesday, 11 November 2014.

Cllr Keith Humphries	Cabinet Member for Public Health, Protection Services, Adult Care and Housing (exc strategic housing)
Cllr Laura Mayes	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe	Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Skills and Strategic Transport
Cllr Jonathon Seed	Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding
Cllr Toby Sturgis	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property, Waste
Cllr John Thomson	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Streetscene and Broadband
Cllr Dick Tonge	Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Procurement and Welfare Reform
Cllr Stuart Wheeler	Cabinet Member for Hubs, Heritage & Arts, Governance (including information management), Support Services (HR, Legal, ICT, Business Services, Democratic Services)

Also in Attendance: Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Christine Crisp
Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Alan Hill
Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Simon Killane
Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Anthony Trotman
Cllr Fred Westmoreland, Cllr Philip Whitehead and
Cllr Jerry Wickham

Key Decisions Matters defined as 'Key' Decisions and included in the Council's Forward Work Plan are shown as 

107 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from the Leader, Councillor Jane Scott, OBE.

Councillor John Thomson, Deputy Leader in the Chair

108 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2014 were presented.

Resolved:

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2014.

109 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

110 **Deputy Leader's announcements**

The Deputy Leader made the following announcements:

Order of agenda

In view of the number of people in attendance for item 11 – Delivery of the Campus Programme (minute no. 113 refers), the Deputy Leader announced that he would be bringing the item forward to be taken after the item on specialist dementia hospital care.

2 minute Silence – Armistice Day

The Deputy Leader invited those in attendance to observe the 2 minute silence at 11am.

111 **Public participation and Questions from Councillors**

The Deputy Leader reminded those present that he would as usual, be happy for them to express their views on any items on the agenda by indicating they wished to speak.

He reported receipt of questions as follows:

In respect of the item on the Delivery of the Campus Programme (minute no. 113 refers) from Councillors Mark Connolly and David Jenkins and members of the public Mr Jonathon Brown (presented by Mr Jim Lynch),

from member of the public Mr Clive Owen in respect of Corsham railway station which was not on the agenda.

A copy of the questions and responses provided by the relevant Cabinet member are attached to the signed copy of the minutes and available online with these minutes.

112 Specialist dementia hospital care

Councillor Keith Humphries presented a report which updated Cabinet on the Wiltshire vision for specialist dementia hospital care. He explained that the Council had been working hard to raise awareness of dementia. He referred to Cabinet's previous consideration of the subject in the development of the Dementia Strategy. Work had taken place with town and parish councils to introduce dementia friendly towns and parishes. The Council had also worked to include dementia into the Safe Places initiative.

Although specialist dementia hospital care was commissioned by Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), it was acknowledged that it was only one part of the dementia pathway, as outlined in the Wiltshire Dementia Strategy. The Strategy was jointly owned by Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire CCG as commissioning organisations. Furthermore, it was the role of Wiltshire Council to act as a community leader in consultation processes that affected its local communities and population. For these reasons, Wiltshire Council was acting as a partner with Wiltshire CCG, supporting them through their public consultation, pending approval from Cabinet.

Cabinet was therefore asked for its approval to proceed to formal consultation on the future of specialist dementia hospital care in Wiltshire.

Councillor Humphries invited Dr Celia Grummitt – GP Dementia Lead and Dr Ted Wilson – Community and Long-term Lead from the CCG to address Cabinet on the CCG's proposals.

They outlined the proposals contained in the Specialist Dementia Hospital Care consultation document, details of which were presented.

The Dementia Strategy concentrated efforts to provide support for dementia patients and their carers mainly in their own homes. The proposals now before Cabinet were in relation to patients who required more specialist support and admission to a specialist dementia hospital during a severe phase of their illness to ensure they were kept safe and well. The consultation document also sought views on the future permanent location of specialist dementia hospital care in Wiltshire, with support from the Council.

Three options for the future provision of countywide specialist dementia hospital care in Wiltshire had been developed and included in the consultation document as follows:

Option 1: Undertake renovation/improvement work to Charter House, Trowbridge and move all specialist dementia hospital care from Amblescroft South, Salisbury to Trowbridge;

Option 2: Undertake renovation/improvement work to Avebury ward

at Green Lane Hospital in Devizes and move all specialist dementia hospital care from Amblescroft South, Salisbury to Devizes or

Option 3: Formalise the existing provision and location of services at Amblescroft South, at Fountain Way in Salisbury.

Maggie Rae, Corporate Director emphasised that this was about the care pathway and the right outcomes for people with advanced dementia. This was aimed at the smaller group who needed extra specialist care to improve their physical as well as mental health and return them back to their communities.

Councillor Christine Crisp, chairman of the Health Select Committee confirmed that her Committee would be happy to participate in the consultation process. It was noted that the Committee had provided a valuable contribution to this area of work.

Councillor Humphries thanked all those present for their views and contributions and it was;

Resolved:

That Cabinet notes the recommendations and gives approval to proceed to formal consultation on the options developed for the future provision of specialist dementia hospital care in Wiltshire.

Reason for decision:


To ensure that people with dementia have access, when required, to specialist dementia hospital care that is fit for purpose and conforms to best practice standards.

113 Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement

Public Participation

Questions were received from Councillors Mark Connolly in respect of campus proposals for Tidworth and David Jenkins in respect of campus proposals for Westbury and member of the public Mr Jonathon Brown (presented by Mr Jim Lynch) in respect of campus proposals for Bradford on Avon.

A copy of the questions and responses provided by Councillor Seed are attached to the signed copy of the minutes and available online with these minutes. Supplementary questions were also raised by Councillor Jenkins and Mr Lynch to which Councillor Seed replied.

 Councillor Jonathan Seed presented a report which updated Cabinet and provided a position statement on the delivery of the Council's community

campus programme. It was noted that the campus programme is one of the first of its kind in the country.

The campus programme is intrinsic to delivering the council's vision to create stronger and more resilient communities and to provide more accessible services that reflect local needs. The report outlined the progress made in each of the seven approved campuses - Calne, Corsham, Cricklade, Melksham, Pewsey, Salisbury and Tisbury. It also provided cabinet with the current position and an indicative timeline for the completion of these campuses.

Cabinet approval was sought for the provision of a community campus in Malmesbury. Initial plans were likely to include a multi-purpose community space tailored to local needs, a kitchen area, improved office space and hot desk and office facilities, located in Cotswold House. It was anticipated that all the approved campuses would be delivered by the end of 2017.

In other community areas, it was suggested that the delivery of a campus be reviewed and aligned to other key factors including future development, economic development schemes, army basing and community needs and, where appropriate a community hub model could be implemented. It was therefore anticipated that some communities might bring forward smaller scale community hub proposals, approved by their area board, for consideration by cabinet on a case by case basis.

Those present acknowledged that the campus programme was an extremely positive and ambitious one especially when set against the financial challenges faced by this council and the public sector generally. Councillor Jon Hubbard expressed some concern that the campus programme might be slipping from the original programme to provide a campus for every community area. He was also concerned that communities and COBs were working extremely hard on proposals which he feared might not come to fruition.

Councillor Seed emphasised that even in the present economic climate, the campus programme was always projected as a 15 year programme. The council had already approved more than £74 million out of a £120 million budget estimate for the programme.

It was noted that the current estimated forecasts for the build costs for the seven campuses would be £76.857 million; this included the proposals for Malmesbury presented to this meeting for approval.

It was noted that whilst this funding did not cover the cost for any further campuses at this stage, a community could bring forward proposals for a campus development or the creation of a community hub for cabinet to consider on a case by case basis. The council would also continue to support local communities and would be appointing community engagement roles to work with the local area boards and COBs to identify and maximise opportunities to strengthen the local communities.

Following questions being raised on the second phase of the campus programme, Councillor Seed emphasised that COBs could continue to bring proposals forward which would be assessed and be progressed at a pace that communities, partners and the council could develop. Issues such as viability, community need, cost and current service provision would be taken into account.

Councillor Linda Packard, Chairman of Chippenham Area Board conveyed the views of the area board from its meeting held on 10 November. The members requested to be appraised at the earliest opportunity of the implications for the Chippenham Campus proposal of being re-designated as part of a development/regeneration programme. They wanted to know exactly what this meant. The members also wanted to know how and when a budget requirement would be determined, where future funding would come from and the time scale within which commencement/completion of a campus for Chippenham was envisaged.

On being asked, Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Philippe explained that it would be sensible to integrate development proposals for Chippenham either economic regeneration or campus with regard to the Chippenham masterplan. It was noted that arrangements were in hand for senior officers to meet with Councillor Packard to assist in resolving the area board's concerns.

On further questioning about how the campus programme would be developed, Councillor Seed emphasised that COBs could still bring forward proposals which could be considered with a view to commissioning feasibility studies. He explained that in some areas, proposals had not come forward.

Maggie Rae, Corporate Director explained the purpose of the report presented was to provide an update on where we were and provide a realistic expectation of the second phase of the programme. She noted that further resources would be required and this would be addressed as part of the budget setting process.

In the ensuing discussion, Councillor Seed responded to points raised by members and COB representatives.

Resolved:


- 1. Cabinet notes the progress made in each of the seven approved campuses - Calne, Corsham, Cricklade, Melksham, Pewsey, Salisbury and Tisbury - and notes the indicative timeline for the completion of these campuses.**
- 2. Cabinet approve the delivery of the first phase of a community campus in Malmesbury.**

3. That Cabinet notes the update regarding the other community areas and the situation regarding future campus development and, where appropriate, community hubs.
4. That Cabinet notes the initial learning to deliver a successful campus and approve the proposed way forward for developing the role and responsibilities of the community operations boards (COBs) and the provision of the appropriate community engagement support.
5. That Cabinet notes that work to progress future governance models for fully operational campuses is underway and proposed options will be tabled at a future meeting for consideration.

Reason for decision:

To update cabinet and provide a position statement on the delivery of the council's community campus programme.

114 **Personalisation Policy**

 Councillor Keith Humphries presented a report which sought to update Cabinet on the outcome of the consultation period and sought agreement of the personalisation policy and two related policies on Charging and Eligibility.

He explained that this was one of a series of reports to come before Cabinet as we implement the provisions of the Care Act. Personalisation meant that every person receiving support, whether through Wiltshire Council or funded by themselves, has choice and control over the shape of that support.

Personal budgets were a central part of the personalisation agenda to give service users choice and control over their care and support. Personal budgets could be defined as an allocation of funding given to users after an assessment which should be sufficient to meet their assessed needs. The Care Act would make personal budgets a mandatory part of all care plans, meaning they would apply to all council-funded users - including those in residential care from April 2015. Councillor Humphries explained the process which included an assessment of an individual's need, agreeing a support plan for them which forms the basis of a personal budget to be used for council commissioned service or managed by the individual themselves.

Details of the feedback from the consultation were included in the report presented. It was noted that from the relatively few responses received, there was strong support with the principles being proposed. Workshops had also been held where further clarity was sought on some areas. Councillor Humphries responded to points raised by members.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

- 1. agree to the personalisation policy setting out how the value of a personal budget will be calculated;**
- 2. agree to the Charging and Eligibility policies, granting the Cabinet member for Public Health, Protection Services, Adult Care and Housing permission to update with changes required for the Care Act 2014, due in April 2015 and**
- 3. agree for the Cabinet member for Public Health, Protection Services, Adult Care and Housing to agree variations required following Care Act implementation, if no major policy or financial implications.**

Reason for decision:

The Care Act requires all Councils to offer people a personal budget. The Council needs a policy to enable personal budgets to be offered when the Care Act come into force in April 2015. Charging and Eligibility policies need to be updated

115 Wiltshire Education, Employment & Skills Strategy

Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Philippe presented a report which updated Cabinet on the development and implementation planning of a new integrated Education, Employment & Skills Strategy for Wiltshire which had been developed on a multi-agency, cross-Council and inclusive partnership basis led by the Wiltshire Education, Employment & Skills Board. It would help drive business development and economic growth and aimed to support development of a skilled and competitive workforce to meet the needs of employers both now and in the future. The range of support being provided through the Strategy was detailed to Cabinet.

The Strategy would also support the development of an inclusive economy enabling the benefits of increasing economic prosperity to be maximised by Wiltshire's communities and individuals.

She congratulated those involved in producing such an extensive piece of work which built on the progress already made by the Council in this area. The Council was recognised as a leading authority in this area with innovative pilots informing and influencing national and European policies and having attracted significant amounts of external funding. The Council had received national regional exemplar status for several of its programmes and outstripping national performance. The Council had received an award from Department for Works

and Pensions for effective partnership between a local authority and Government department.

The report of the Education 16-19s Task Group was presented which included a number of recommendations for Cabinet's consideration. Councillor de Rhé-Philippe confirmed that recommendations h, j and k were particularly helpful and would be incorporated into the Strategy.

Councillor Laura Mayes also commended the Strategy, commentating that it demonstrated how well the Council worked across its service areas and with its partners. She welcomed its focus on the employer, education and ensuring young people would have the right skills for the current and future job market.

Councillor Jon Hubbard was very pleased with the report. He also commended the work and professionalism of the team involved, particularly the outstanding contribution made by Haylea Asadi in supporting the work of the Task Group. He guided members through the work and recommendations of the Task Group. The Task Group considered that transport was a key issue, particularly in rural areas which should be investigated further, perhaps in partnership with employers. The Task Group also considered that more could be done in helping young people in obtaining qualifications needed, not necessarily through the more traditional routes, to secure good employment opportunities.

Councillor de Rhé-Philippe confirmed that the points raised by Councillor Hubbard would be looked into. It was noted that the report was scheduled to be considered by the Children's Select Committee on 9 December, although Councillor Hubbard suggested it might be more appropriate for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee which had commissioned the work by the Task Group.

Councillors de Rhé-Philippe and Mayes responded to members' questions.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

- 1. note the progress made towards integration of the Education, Employment and Skills agenda to date and the strategic direction in place and proposed activity to further this;**
- 2. consider the Action Plans contained within the Full Version of the Strategy which outline the important role for Wiltshire Council in this agenda and directly influence the work programme for relevant services of Wiltshire Council and a number of strategic partners. Please refer to the Apprenticeship Growth Plan and the Increasing Participation & Employment Plan laid out as Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 of the Full Version of the Strategy document (Appendix 2**

starts at page 53 and Appendix 3 starts at page 58). Please see Appendix 2 of this report for the Full Strategy document;

- 3. endorse and champion the Strategy as key to improving the Education, Employment and Skills base in Wiltshire, to ensure a focus on Education, Employment & Skills priorities across all our work and**
- 4. recommend that this Strategy is taken to the Public Service Board for consideration/endorsement.**

Reason for decision:

Wiltshire needs to position itself so it can respond to the education, employment and skills challenges it is facing and the fact that there has never been a busier time in relation to key policy developments impacting on this agenda area. The Strategy provides the clear strategic direction necessary to support shared ownership of this agenda and to build on existing strengths, maximise opportunities, affect change and improvement.

116 Wiltshire Child Poverty Strategy 2014-2020

Councillor Keith Humphries introduced a report which briefed members on the development of the Wiltshire Reducing Child Poverty Strategy 2014 – 2020. The strategy provided the strategic direction for Wiltshire Council and partner organisations in reducing the level of children living in poverty in Wiltshire, and mitigating the effects of child poverty across Wiltshire. Cabinet was asked to approve the Strategy and recommend its adoption to Council.

The Strategy would support a number of public health strategic aims. It was noted that public health would be taking on commissioning responsibilities for health visiting services for children aged 0-5 in 2015 and would also be taking the family nurse partnership supporting teenage parents.

Councillor Laura Mayes welcomed the Strategy. She highlighted the plight of those in poverty and the lasting impact it can have on their lives and the lives of their families. She urged members to review the local data which would enable more targeted and locally focussed support.

Maggie Rae, Corporate Director referred to the collaborative and supportive work being undertaken through public health which worked closely with Children's Services. She also offered to assist members with targeted support for their respective areas.

Councillor Jon Hubbard explained that Children's Select Committee had looked at how best it could monitor the implementation of this Strategy. He endorsed the aspirations of the Strategy and hoped it could be adopted by the Council at the earliest opportunity to ensure swift implementation. He stressed that the

Council should be doing all it could to help and support affected people in our communities. Councillor Mayes agreed with the monitoring of the Strategy to quickly identify what was working and what was not and needed to be changed.

Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director noted that the Select Committee had appropriately made the link with the early intervention strategy. She referred to other strategies and initiatives and the involvement of public health which all made a positive and combined difference.

Councillor Chris Caswill welcomed the report. He very much agreed with the concept of the needs assessment which he considered a very strong evidence based tool. He noted areas where the Strategy needed updating and the need to emphasise particular key areas and made a number of suggestions to further strengthen and refine the Strategy before its submission to Council. Cllr Caswill referred to the work of the Child Poverty Forum in Chippenham which he helped establish and brought together a number of organisations. He welcomed the opportunity to develop locally focussed solutions. In relation to the monitoring of the Strategy, he suggested the drawing up of a more simplified action plan with specific locally based action plans especially for Chippenham.

Maggie Rae responded to the points raised. She considered that the document lent itself to the creation of a local checklist to focus on child poverty to ensure it remained focused which would also enable closer monitoring of its implementation.

Councillor de Rhé-Philipe referred to the economic development measures to provide more good high quality jobs for the County. Councillor Mayes sought further information from Councillor Caswill on the Child Poverty Forums as this was something positive that could be progressed by Area Boards in their respective areas.

Carolyn Godfrey referred to the attainment gap and the work the Council was doing with school governing bodies to close those gaps.

Resolved:

That Cabinet approve the updated strategy and recommend its adoption to Council.

Reason for decision:

1. Part 2 of the Child Poverty Act 2010 places duties on local authorities and named partners to 'cooperate with a view to reducing and mitigating the effects of child poverty in their areas'. They are also required to prepare and publish local child poverty needs assessments and to develop joint child poverty strategies.

2. Child poverty features as a priority in key top-level Wiltshire documents. It is in the Wiltshire Assembly's "People, Places and Promises: Wiltshire Community Plan 2011-2026" which was adopted in April 2011. It is included in Wiltshire Council's 2013-2017 Business Plan through priorities to protect those who are most vulnerable, boost the local economy and bring communities together to enable and support them to do more for themselves. In addition, the Wiltshire Children and Young People's Trust (comprised of representatives from key children's services in Wiltshire) specifically states in its vision a commitment to "reduce, prevent and mitigate the effects of child poverty" – and this is reflected in its Children & Young People's Plan 2012-2015 and in the various commissioning strategies which sit underneath it.
3. Once the Child Poverty Strategy has been approved by Cabinet the implementation plan can be signed off and work can begin to mitigate and reduce the effects of child poverty in Wiltshire in line with our responsibilities as laid out in the Child Poverty Act.

117 **Report on Treasury Management Strategy 2014-15 - Second Quarter ended 30 September 2014**

Councillor Richard Tonge presented a report which provided Cabinet with a quarterly report on the Treasury Management Strategy. This report covered the second quarter of 2014-15, ended 30 September 2014.

The report reviewed management actions in relation to:

- a) the Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators originally set for the year and the position at the 30 September 2014;
- b) other treasury management actions during the period; and
- c) the approved Annual Investment Strategy.

There had been no further repayments from the Icelandic banks since those reported to Cabinet on 21 November 2013. To date the Council had recovered approximately £10.2 million of the original £12 million deposited in 2008.

Resolved:

That Cabinet note the contents of the report in line with the Treasury Management Strategy.

Reason for decision:

To give members of the Cabinet an opportunity to consider the performance of the Council in the period to the end of the quarter against the parameters set out in the approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2014-15. This report is a requirement of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy.

118 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

Appendix to signed minutes

Questions and responses

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 12.25 pm)

These decisions were published on the 21 November 2014 and will come into force on 1 December 2014
--

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718024 or e-mail yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk
Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

11 November 2014

**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Cllr Mark Connolly

Question

I note the paper states that discussions are underway to discuss the infrastructure requirements in relation to Army Basing. Can the Cabinet please advise what discussions have been held with MOD and with whom regarding a campus in Tidworth?

What were the responses from these discussions on whether the Tidworth Leisure Centre was supported as the Campus for Tidworth?

Will the Cabinet consider a partnership with Tidworth Town Council to build a civic centre should an extension to the TLC not be proceeded with?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate). In the case of Tidworth it is entirely appropriate that any proposal is taken in consideration with the Army Basing programme that will see around 12,000 additional residents located in the Salisbury Plain area.

I met with the Garrison Commander in June to discuss the requirements for the future.

It is anticipated that applications for infrastructure and amenities behind the wire will be submitted at the end of November. The requirements in local communities have still to be clarified including the facilities, services and

amenities. The Government's body (DIO) continues to look at community infrastructure required.

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

11 November 2014

**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Cllr David Jenkins

Question

It is with some concern that we note the contents of this Cabinet report. You will be aware that within weeks our campus team in Westbury is due to present its campus proposals to the area board. Those proposals are the result of two years hard work - including one of the most effective campus consultations in the county - and are an accurate reflection of what Westbury really wants and needs. Can you tell us where this latest report leaves us now?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate).

In the case of Westbury, I attended the COB meeting in October and advised that subject to area board approval, I would consider a proposal for a campus model. Have, therefore, agreed to attend the next area board meeting on 11 December where the COB is expected to present its proposals for a future campus model. Following the meeting, subject to the area board approval, will consider the proposal as part of the ongoing campus programme.

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

11 November 2014

**Public participation and Questions from Councillors
Item 11 - Delivery of the Campus Programme - Position Statement**

Question from Mr Jonathon Brown

Question

In the Bradford on Avon Community Area, we have over the last three years undertaken a huge amount of work to obtain community views to identify the service needs and facilities required and partners to join a campus development. We have a compelling need for improved leisure, arts, heritage and community facilities. Public expectations have been raised by consultations in the town encouraged by your Council. There is no mention in the Campus Position Statement of the work of the Bradford on Avon Community or that of a number of other Communities developing campuses. Now it appears there is no funding and little prospect of the facilities we have been encouraged could be developed.

Can you please advise us what future there is for a campus in the Bradford on Avon Community Area and where do we sit in the Councils priorities?

**Response from Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities,
Campus, Area Boards, Libraries, Leisure and Flooding**

Response

The cabinet report presents a position statement on the first approved phase of the campus programme. It does not preclude future proposed schemes coming forward from communities for a community campus or hub that best reflects their community needs.

Each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis. It is expected that any proposed scheme will include funding contributions from partners, developers and other sources (as appropriate).

In the case of Bradford on Avon, if the COB presents a proposal for a campus model in the town, I will consider the proposal as part of the ongoing campus programme.

This page is intentionally left blank

Item No. 5 - Public participation and Questions from Councillors

Question from Mr Clive Owen

**Responses from Cllr John Thomson,
Cabinet member for Highways and Transport**

1. What steps has Wiltshire Council taken in the last 12 months for the train station to be reopened in Corsham?

Response: Corsham Station was included in a long list of potential major transport infrastructure projects considered by Wiltshire Council's Cabinet at its meeting on 21 May 2013 (see

<http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IId=35934&Opt=3>).

Subsequently, the station was approved as a 'Development' scheme by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Transport Body (SWLTB) at its meeting on 8 July 2013 (see

<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=940&MIId=6298&Ver=4>).

Corsham Station was included in the 'Wiltshire Rail Study: Strategic Analysis Report' (May 2013) presented to the SWLTB meeting on 2 October 2013 (see <http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s62344/Wiltshire%20Rail%20Study.pdf>).

The station was included in the Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan (SWSEP) submitted to the Government by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) in March 2014 (see <http://www.swlep.biz/news/150>).

2. Has Wiltshire Council met with anyone from the Department of Transport or Network Rail to discuss a train station at Corsham? If so what were the dates, the result of the meeting and was the meeting minuted?

Response: Officers met with Network Rail officials on 4 February 2014 to discuss potential rail infrastructure schemes, including Corsham Station, to be included in the SWSEP.

Councillor John Thomson (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Streetscene and Broadband) and officers attended a meeting with Stephen Hammond MP (then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport) and representatives from Corsham on 28 March 2014.

Councillor Horace Prickett (Portfolio Holder for Transport) and Councillor Dick Tonge (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Procurement and Welfare Reform; and Corsham Without and Box Hill Division) attended a meeting with Department for Transport officials and representatives from Corsham on 28 October 2014.

As far as the Council is aware, the above meetings were not formally minuted. In addition, Network Rail is an 'Advisory' member of the SWLTB.

3. Did Wiltshire Council respond to the recent Great Western Rail Franchise consultation asking for Corsham station to be reopened?

Response: In its submission, the Council highlighted that the SWSEP promotes Corsham Station and made the following relevant points:

"We are generally supportive of the Bristol Metro proposals. The franchisee should consider the challenges of integrating the Bristol Metro with the proposed Bristol-Oxford (or other) service that would serve Corsham and other proposed stations; in particular, rolling stock requirements and the efficient use of line capacity between Bristol and Bath".

"Although there are other options for providing services to new stations at Corsham and Royal Wootton Bassett, a Bristol-Oxford service is seen as having significant potential for providing economic benefits".

4. Has Wiltshire Council created a business case for the reopening of the train station at Corsham. If not, when will Wiltshire Council start this work?

Response: A brief has recently been issued to the council's term transport consultant, Atkins, to produce a Project Inception Report (PIR) in accordance with Network Rail's 'Investment in Stations: A guide for promoters and developers' (May 2011). The broad aim of a PIR is to assist the rail industry in understanding the objectives and outcomes of any third-party investment.

5. When does Wiltshire Council anticipate a business case for Corsham train station will be submitted to the Department of Transport for their approval?

Response: As stated above, Corsham Station has been included in the SWSEP and a brief for a PIR has recently been issued. Further progression of the proposal (i.e. through Network Rail's Guide to Railway Investment Projects (GRIP) process) will be dependent on the outcomes of the Local Growth Fund process and PIR.

6. Does Wiltshire Council have any viable plans for a Corsham train station to be opened in the next 10 years? if so, what are those plans?

Response: See response above.

7. How much does Wiltshire Council expect a new train station in Corsham to cost considering it closed in 1965?

Response: A cost estimate of £10 million (with a 50% contingency allowance) was included in the SWSEP.