

Record of Cabinet decisions

Tuesday, 25 August 2015

3.00pm to 3.37pm

Date of publication: 26 August 2015

**Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 4 September 2015
The record of decisions is subject to approval at the next meeting of the Cabinet**

Present:	Councillor Alan Jarrett	Leader of the Council
	Councillor Howard Doe	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services
	Councillor David Brake	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
	Councillor Rodney Chambers, OBE	Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships
	Councillor Jane Chitty	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation
	Councillor Phil Filmer	Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
	Councillor Adrian Gulvin	Portfolio Holder for Resources
	Councillor Mike O'Brien	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

In Attendance: Neil Davies, Chief Executive
Dr Alison Barnett, Director of Public Health
Wayne Hemingway, Democratic Services Officer
Richard Hicks, Deputy Director, Customer Contact, Leisure, Culture, Democracy
and Governance
Perry Holmes, Assistant Director, Legal and Corporate Services/Monitoring
Officer
Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services
Barbara Peacock, Director of Children and Adults Services
Phil Watts, Chief Finance Officer

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrew Mackness (Corporate Services) and Rupert Turpin (Business Management).

Record of decisions

The record of the meeting held on 4 August 2015 was agreed and signed by the Leader as correct.

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests

Disclosable pecuniary interests

There were none.

Other interests

There were none.

Supporting People at Home - Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy

Background:

This report provided details of the joint Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy between the Council and NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (Medway CCG). This Strategy set out how Medway intended to commission and redesign Intermediate Care and Reablement Services to meet the needs of Medway residents. It outlined the principles that would guide development and implementation of the strategic direction and also set out aims and objectives, and plans for delivery.

A set of high level aims had been developed that described what the Intermediate Care Model would deliver for Medway. These aims aligned closely with the Department of Health guidance 'Intermediate Care - Half Way Home':

- Support people at home where safe to do so
- Maximise independent living
- Promote faster recovery from illness
- Minimise admissions to Long Term Residential Care
- Facilitate a timely discharge from hospital
- Provide effective alternatives to hospital admissions
- Ensure a skilled intermediate care workforce.

A Diversity Impact Assessment had been completed as part of the development phase of the work as set out in Appendix 3 to the report. This showed the strategy to be a positive proposal for change for Medway communities.

Details of the consultation undertaken on the draft Strategy was set out in paragraph 7 of the report. Details of consideration of the matter by the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee were set out in paragraph 8 of the report. In addition, the Strategy would also be considered by the Medway CCG Governing Body on 26 August 2015 and the Health and Wellbeing Board on 15 September 2015.

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**Decision
number:**

Decision:

109/2015

The Cabinet approved the Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy and noted the associated work needed to produce successful outcomes in respect of the following way forward:

Develop more community based services to support people at home including the following actions:

- a) **Make more use of and develop better reablement services**
- b) **Develop a responsive Integrated Community Equipment Service**
- c) **Develop Telecare services**
- d) **Work with the Voluntary Sector to maximise the contribution the Voluntary Sector can make to supporting more people at home and to self help and community resilience**
- e) **Develop a Home to Assess scheme to keep people away from hospital and get them back home sooner**
- f) **Place the care around the individual in the setting they choose which will usually be their home**
- g) **People tell us they want to be supported at home so we will shift the balance of care away from institutional settings towards supporting more people at home.**

110/2015

The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Children and Adult Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and the Chief Operating Officer of the Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, to make minor amendments to the Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy following consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Board.

Reasons:

Commissioners from Health and Adult Social Care have worked with the key partners involved in the patient/user journey to analyse the current picture of service provision, review current and future needs, and learn from best practice elsewhere, in order to identify the changes necessary to improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of future service provision throughout Medway.

The Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy is a joint health and social care strategy which details how Medway intends to commission and redesign Intermediate Care and Reablement Services to meet the needs of Medway

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residents. It outlines the principles that will guide development and implementation of the strategic direction and also sets out aims and objectives, and plans for delivery.

Medway Children's and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Strategy

Background:

This report provided details of the consultation and the development towards the Medway Children's and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Strategy 2015-2018 which paid regard to what had emerged in national policy since 2011, including a raft of new strategy, policy and guidance published in March 2015 with a particular focus on the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people, including the role of schools, colleges and the delivery of earlier help. Parity of esteem between mental health and physical health in the delivery of health services had been highlighted in several recent national policies as detailed in the report.

It was noted that the Council had lacked an overall Strategy for children and young people and that a report had been presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 21 January 2015, setting out the plan to develop a comprehensive Strategy. The report provided detailed information on the method of consultation and the key messages arising from the consultation, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report.

The report noted that should a substantial change in the reconfiguration of services be considered through the delivery of this strategy, this would require an Equality Impact Assessment and formal consultation.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered this report on 21 July 2015 and its comments were set out in paragraph 8 of the report.

Decision number:

Decision:

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|-----------------|--|
| 111/2015 | The Cabinet approved the Children's and Young people Emotional Wellbeing Strategy, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report. |
| 112/2015 | The Cabinet agreed that the Director of Children and Adults Services be delegated authority, following consultation with the Emotional Wellbeing Task Group and Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, to finalise the Children's and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan. |

Reasons:

The Children's and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Strategy sets out the key elements of the strategic framework for taking action to improve the emotional health and wellbeing support for Children and Young people in Medway. This will be

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delivered by implementing a comprehensive offer across the whole system, including education, health and social care.

The document responds to consultation with stakeholders across Medway during May and June 2015.

Localised Support for Council Tax

Background:

This report provided details of proposals to commence consultation on making changes to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). The report noted that on 8 July 2015 the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Summer Budget announced a number of welfare reforms and that early indications at a national level suggested these reforms would increase the cost of the CTRS by around £200 to £250 per affected claim. As such, officers' calculations suggested the increase in cost in Medway would be approximately £350,000 based on 1,752 working age claimants who were in employment and whose income exceeded their applicable amounts.

The report provided details of various options for Members' consideration together with advice and analysis regarding the method of consultation, the potential impact on collection rates of a reduction in the discount, enhancing extended payments and initial work towards the Diversity Impact Assessment.

Decision number:

Decision:

113/2015

The Cabinet agreed to the commencement of a twelve week consultation in relation to proposals to reduce the maximum CTRS discount from 75% to 65%.

114/2015

The Cabinet agreed to enhance the extended payments period from four to eight weeks as set out in paragraph 7.3 of the report.

Reasons:

Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme are a matter for Full Council, however, Cabinet recommended the amended scheme on 25 August 2015 to allow a full twelve weeks consultation in advance of Council in January 2016.

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/2016 - Round 1

Background:

This report detailed the revenue budget forecasts as at the end of June 2015. The report also highlighted the major financial risks remaining in respect of the 2015/2016 General Fund revenue budget.

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It was noted that the latest round of monitoring returns, after agreed management action predicted a potential overspend of £4.7 million. Further management action plans were being formulated by directorate management teams and it was anticipated that this figure would be mitigated further as the year progressed.

**Decision
number:**

Decision:

115/2015

The Cabinet noted the result of the first round of revenue monitoring for 2015/16 and agreed the proposed management action.

Reasons:

Cabinet has the responsibility to ensure effective budgetary control to contain expenditure within the approved limits set by Council.

Capital Budget Monitoring 2015/2016 - Quarter 1

Background:

This report detailed the capital monitoring forecasts as at the end of June 2015.

The approved capital programme for 2015/16 and future years was £121.3million, representing both brought forward schemes and new approvals. The report consolidated the capital monitoring undertaken by each directorate and this was summarised in the appendix, which detailed the individual schemes and their financial position.

The report noted that the capital receipt requirement underpinning the three year programme stood at £7.4m, however, current estimates of receipts over the same period suggested a shortfall against this requirement of approximately £3.0m. In addition to this, it was estimated that the building repairs and maintenance fund required an injection of funding, estimated at between £1.0m and £2.0m to deliver essential works, including circa £400,000 of dilapidations at the Compass Centre. It was proposed to re-profile the current programme over the longer term in anticipation of additional grant and other funding streams in the future.

**Decision
number:**

Decision:

The Cabinet noted the forecast outturn figure and the additions to the capital programme under delegations, as summarised in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

116/2015

The Cabinet approved the proposals to manage the deficit in capital receipts as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report, i.e. manage the deficit via a re-profiling exercise.

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Reasons:

Cabinet has the responsibility to ensure effective budgetary control to contain expenditure within the approved limits set by Council.

Council Plan Quarter 1 2015/16 - Performance Monitoring Report

Background:

This report summarised the performance of the Council's Key Measures of Success for April-June (Quarter 1) 2015/16 as set out in the Council Plan.

The report and accompanying appendix included progress reports on performance against 32 Key Measures of Success and 26 Key Projects. It also included feedback from the Council's customers using GovMetric, a customer satisfaction measurement at the point of contact (phone, web and face to face). The performance results and associated service comments were set out under each of Medway's four key priorities and two values.

The report highlighted the following:

Key measures of success:

- 70% (21 out of 30) were on target.
- 10% (3 out of 30) were just below target
- 20% (6 out of 30) were significantly below target.

GovMetric

- 80% (8,442 ratings) of customers who contacted us rated their experience as good
- 91% of phone contacts rated their experience as good
- 76% of face to face contacts rated their experience as good
- 55% of web contacts rated their experience as good.

It was noted that the report would be considered by the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Decision number: **Decision:**

The Cabinet noted the Q1 2015/16 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2015/16.

117/2015 The Cabinet agreed to work with officers to make amendments to build on current achievements and deliver remedial action where required.

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Reasons:

Regular monitoring of performance by management and Members is best practice and ensures achievement of corporate objectives.

Recruitment Freeze

Background:

This report presented information on vacancies that officers had requested approval to commence recruitment for, following the process agreed by Cabinet on 7 January 2003 (decision number 9/2003).

Details of the posts were set out within Appendix 1 to the report.

Decision number:

118/2015 **The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following posts, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report:**

Business Support

- a) Assistant Category Manager x 2
- b) Assistant Head of Legal Services (People)
- c) Lawyer (People) x 4
- d) Paralegal (People) x 3

Children and Adults

- e) Data and MI Officer
- f) Support Services Assistant
- g) Support Services Assistant – Solihull Training
- h) Temporary Admin Assistant

Regeneration, Community and Culture

- i) Assistant Engineer
- j) Assistant Waste Contracts Officer.

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Reasons:

The posts presented to Cabinet will support the efficient running of the Council.

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Leader of the Council

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Date

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