

Record of Cabinet decisions

Tuesday, 27 September 2016

3.00pm to 4.27pm

Date of publication: 28 September 2016

**Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 6 October 2016
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 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 Andrew Mackness	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services - Lead Member (statutory responsibility, including education)
	Councillor Rupert Turpin	Portfolio Holder for Business Management

In Attendance: Neil Davies, Chief Executive
Dr Andrew Burnett, Interim Director of Public Health
Wayne Hemingway, Democratic Services Officer
Richard Hicks, Director of Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation
Perry Holmes, Chief Legal Officer/Monitoring Officer
Carrie McKenzie, Head of HR and Organisational Change
Alex Saul, Democratic Services Officer
Ian Sutherland, Deputy Director, Children and Adults Services
Phil Watts, Chief Finance Officer

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rodney Chambers OBE (Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships) and Martin Potter (Educational Attainment and Improvement).

Cabinet, 27 September 2016

Record of decisions

The record of the meeting held on 6 September 2016 was agreed and signed by the Leader as a correct record.

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests

Disclosable pecuniary interests

Councillor Filmer declared an interest in agenda item 9 (Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Household Waste Recycling Centres) because he is a Director of Medway Norse. He left the room during consideration of this item.

Other interests

There were none.

Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-2020

Background:

This report set out the major financial issues facing the Council over the next four years. It also provided a framework for the more detailed preparation of the draft Revenue Budget for 2016/2017.

The report included details of the Council's financial position, together with an overview of the Government's spending plans and the need for the Medium Term Financial Plan. An assessment of likely available resources and details of a number of key spending issues across the Council's directorates were set out in the report and accompanying appendices. It was also noted that Diversity Impact Assessments would be undertaken and reported to Members as part of the budget and service planning process as the quantum of resources and the impact on Council services unfolded.

It was reported that there was a forecast deficit of £11.7 million in 2017/2018.

Decision number: ***Decision:***

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 110/2016 | The Cabinet agreed the underlying aims of the Medium Term Financial Plan. |
| | The Cabinet noted the forecast level of overall funding outlined in section 4 of the report; spending priorities in section 5 of the report and the projected budget deficit identified in Table 2 in the report. |
| 111/2016 | The Cabinet agreed that proposals be brought forward, through the financial planning process, to address the deficit. |

112/2016 **The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader, whether to accept the Government's offer of a minimum four year funding settlement, in return for the submission of an efficiency plan based upon the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.**

Reasons:

This is a preparatory document to meet the budget process and timetable set out within the Constitution.

Medway Special Educational Needs and Inclusion Strategy 2016-2020

Background:

This report provided details of the proposed Medway Special Educational Needs and Inclusion Strategy 2016-2020, the aim of which would be to promote, support and encourage greater inclusion for Medway children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities within their local schools and communities, enabling them to have independent living and work skills by the time they reach adulthood.

In addition, the strategy was an integral part of a wider Council strategy on making Medway a more inclusive community, developing resilience and enabling all residents to fulfil their potential.

This report had been considered by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1 September 2016 and its comments were set out in paragraph 7 of the report.

A Diversity Impact Assessment had been carried out on the draft Strategy, as set out in Appendix C to the report. This had indicated there was overall support for the introduction of the Strategy.

Decision number: **Decision:**

The Cabinet noted the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in section 7 of the report.

113/2016 **The Cabinet approved the Medway Special Educational Needs and Inclusion Strategy, as set out in Appendix A to the report.**

Reasons:

Approval of the strategy will enable the Council to promote, support and encourage greater inclusion for Medway children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities within their local schools and communities, enabling them to have independent living and work skills by the time they reach adulthood.

2016 Annual Review of the School Organisation Plan

Background

This report gave the Cabinet an update on progress that had been made against the School Organisation Plan 2011-16. The report was submitted annually to highlight areas of emerging need and to ensure a sufficient supply of good quality school places was maintained.

The report set out three areas of emerging need, which had been brought to the attention of the Education Funding Agency (EFA);

- primary provision in Strood and Gillingham/Rainham;
- secondary provision in Strood and Rainham;
- special provision for primary Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The report also highlighted to Cabinet that, overall, in Medway there was potential for a deficit in primary capacity and that additional capacity would be required to meet demand, with reference to individual proposals, as summarised in paragraph 3.11 of the report.

Diversity Impact Assessments would be undertaken on individual proposals brought forwards as a result of actions arising from this report.

***Decision Decision
Number:***

The Cabinet noted the continued excellent progress made against the School Organisation Plan framework, which had ensured that sufficient school places were available to meet the increasing demand.

114/2016 The Cabinet approved the proposal to expand St Mary's Island Primary School from 2FE to 3FE, which will meet demand from new housing, both ongoing and proposed, in the immediate and wider local area, subject to there being no successful free school bid in the area.

115/2016 The Cabinet approved the proposal to expand Halling Primary School to a full 2FE to meet demand and parental preference in the area as a result of significant housing development and the inward movement of families.

116/2016 The Cabinet approved the proposal to expand Riverside

Cabinet, 27 September 2016

Primary School from 1FE to 2FE to mitigate the effect of a number of housing developments planned for the immediate area and the subsequent expected additional demand, subject to there being no successful free school bid in the area.

- 117/2016** The Cabinet authorised officers to commence the consultation, detailed design and procurement processes outlined in decisions 114/2016 to 116/2016 above.
- 118/2016** The Cabinet approved the proposal to establish a Hearing Impaired Unit at Thomas Aveling Secondary Academy, to meet the needs of Medway's secondary aged pupils with hearing impairment, resulting in fewer pupils being placed at out of area provision.
- 119/2016** The Cabinet authorised officers to undertake further feasibility studies as necessary to ensure that forward planning is in place to meet demand as and where it emerges.

Reasons:

To ensure that the Council meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient good quality school places are available.

Council Plan Quarter 1 2016/17 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 in Quarter 1 2016/17 against these priorities using 32 Key measures of success and 31 Key projects. However, this report was only including information on 22 as 10 of these were either data only, or data was not expected until after the report was published.

The report highlighted the following:

Key Measures of Success:

- 72.7% (16 out of 22) were on target.
- 9.1% (2 out of 22) were just below target
- 18.2% (4 out of 22) were significantly below target.

Results of the Citizen Panel survey: 'how satisfied are you with the way the council runs its services?'

- 62.5% were very or fairly satisfied with the way the Council runs its services

Cabinet, 27 September 2016

- 10.6% were very satisfied.
- 24.9% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.
- 11.1% were very or fairly dissatisfied.

Results of the Citizen Panel survey (May 2016): 'do you agree that the council provides value for money services?'

- 53.6% agreed with the statement
- 10.7% disagreed with this statement
- 31.7% neither agreed or disagreed.

The Cabinet Members discussed a number of key highlights for Quarter 1.

It was noted that the report would be considered by the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees during October 2016.

Decision **Decision:**
Number:

The Cabinet noted the Quarter 1 2016/17 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2016/17.

The Cabinet noted that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, had approved the adjustment of Quarter 1 target for performance measure LRCC 4a (Jobs created and safeguarded), from 75 to 35 to reflect the delayed receipt of Locate in Kent data, in accordance with the authority delegated to them at Full Council in February 2016.

Reasons:

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

Recruitment Freeze

Background:

This report presented information on a vacancy 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 post were set out within Appendix 1 to the report.

Cabinet, 27 September 2016

**Decision
number:**

Decision:

120/2016

The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following post, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report:

Children & Adults

- **Admin Support Officer.**

Reasons:

The post presented to Cabinet would support the efficient running of the Council.

Treasury Management Strategy Mid Year Review Report 2016/2017

Background:

The Cabinet agreed to accept this as an urgent item to enable its views to be submitted to Full Council on 13 October 2016.

This report presented the mid-year review of the Treasury Management Strategy 2016/2017, which had been approved by Full Council alongside the Capital and Revenue Budgets on 26 February 2016. This report would also be considered by the Audit Committee on 29 September 2016 prior to final consideration at Full Council on 13 October 2016.

The report included an economic update for the first six months of 2016/2017 and reviewed the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy; the Council's investment portfolio and borrowing strategy for 2016/2017; a review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2016/2017 and, compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2016/2017.

**Decision
number:**

Decision:

The Cabinet noted the contents of this report.

121/2016

The Cabinet asked Council to note that Cabinet will be bringing forward proposals to the budget meeting in February to review the Council's risk appetite in relation to investments.

Reasons:

In accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice for Treasury Management, there should be a review of the strategy at least half yearly.

Cabinet, 27 September 2016

Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Household Waste Recycling Centres

Background:

This report sought approval to commence the progression of the recommended management option partner for the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

The contract was currently delivered by FCC Environmental and was due to expire on 30 September 2017. This report put forward four options to Cabinet for running the HWRCs post-September 2017.

The report noted that the preferred option (Teckal Exemption) was permissible in accordance with paragraph 1.8.2.8 of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

**Decision Decision:
Number:**

122/2016 The Cabinet approved Option 3, in accordance with the Teckal exemption Medway Council can execute with Medway Norse, for the future service delivery of the Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Reasons:

To enable negotiations with Medway Norse to achieve the best outcome for the Council.

.....
Leader of the Council

.....
Date

Wayne Hemingway/Alex Saul, Democratic Services Officers

Telephone: 01634 332509/332008
Email: democratic.services@medway.gov.uk