

Record of Cabinet decisions (virtual meeting)

Tuesday, 20 October 2020
3.00pm to 3.28pm

Date of publication: 21 October 2020

Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 29 October 2020
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 Adults' 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 Mrs Josie Iles	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services – Lead Member (statutory responsibility)	
	Councillor Martin Potter	Portfolio Holder for Education and Schools	
	Councillor Rupert Turpin	Portfolio Holder for Business Management	
	In Attendance:	Neil Davies, Chief Executive	
		Perry Holmes, Chief Legal Officer/Monitoring Officer	
		Teri Reynolds, Democratic Services Officer	

Apologies for absence

There were none.

Record of decisions

The record of the meeting held on 22 September 2020 and of the urgent decision taken by the Leader on 9 October 2020 were agreed by the Cabinet and signed by

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the Leader as a correct record, subject to decision number 118/2020, which referred to paragraphs 3.10 and 3.11 of the report, being amended to instead refer to paragraph 3.12.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests

Disclosable pecuniary interests

There were none.

Other significant interests (OSIs)

Councillor Howard Doe declared an OSI in agenda item 5 (Medway Commercial Group – Business Strategy), because he was Chairman and Director of Medway Commercial Group Limited and he relied on a dispensation granted by the Councillor Conduct Committee to enable him to take part in the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Rupert Turpin declared an OSI in agenda item 5 (Medway Commercial Group – Business Strategy), because he was a Director of Medway Commercial Group Limited and he relied on a dispensation granted by the Councillor Conduct Committee to enable him to take part in the discussion and vote on this item.

Other interests

There were none.

Annual Review of the School Place Planning Strategy 2018-22

Background:

This report provided an update on the progress made against the School Place Planning Strategy 2018-22, highlighting areas of demand for school places, action taken and made recommendations to ensure that sufficient good quality school places were available.

The report referred to recent Council action that had been undertaken to provide additional provision in Medway for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Decision number:

Decision:

The Cabinet noted the continued excellent progress made against the School Organisation Plan and School Place Planning Strategy frameworks, which have ensured that the Council has met its duty and sufficient school places are currently available to meet the increasing demand.

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129/2020 **The Cabinet authorised officers to undertake further feasibility studies and statutory consultations as necessary to ensure that plans are in place to meet demand as and where it emerges.**

The Cabinet noted the ongoing work being undertaken to ensure sufficient Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision is available within Medway as set out in section 7 of the report.

Reasons:

By approving the recommendations in section 13 of the report, the Cabinet will be ensuring that the Council meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient good quality school places are available.

Medway Commercial Group - Business Strategy

Background:

This report sought approval of Medway Commercial Group (MCG)'s Business Strategy, which was set out in an Exempt Appendix to the report, due to the commercially sensitive information it contained. The report also requested approval of a loan agreement on commercial terms with MCG to consolidate the outstanding credit owed to the Council by MCG and to approve amendments to the corporate structure of the company.

The Strategy included the transfer of Education Traded Services back to the Council and a renegotiation of Recruitment Traded Services.

Decision number:

Decision:

- 130/2020** **The Cabinet approved the Business Strategy, as set out within the Exempt Appendix to the report, which would form the basis of an updated Business Plan which will be presented to Cabinet in February 2021.**
- 131/2020** **The Cabinet approved the transfer of Education Traded Services back to Medway Council from 1 February 2021.**
- 132/2020** **The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Legal Officer in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Leader of the Council to renegotiate with Medway Commercial Group Ltd. (MCG) the matters specified in bullets 2 and 3 of the Summary section of the Exempt Appendix.**
- 133/2020** **The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Legal**

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Officer in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Leader of the Council to agree the terms of a loan facility to MCG.

134/2020

The Cabinet agreed to wind up Medway Public Services (MPS) as set out in paragraph 2.3 and section 5 of the report and agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Legal Officer to make the necessary amendments at Companies House to effect the changes.

Reasons:

The Business Strategy demonstrates good business planning and will ensure good commercial performance and return on investment to the Council. Approval of the Strategy will underpin a refreshed Business Plan. The appropriate mechanism to consolidate credit to the Council is to facilitate a loan, at commercial rates for the timely repayment.

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Leader of the Council

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Date

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