

# **COUNCIL**

**20 OCTOBER 2011**

## **LEADER'S REPORT**

Rodney Chambers, Leader of the Council, will give a report on key developments since the last ordinary Council meeting on 21 July 2011.

He will include:

- Academic results 2011
- University Technical College
- Chatham Waterfront Bus Station
- Thames Estuary Airport
- Decisions made by the Cabinet on 2 August 2011, 6 September 2011 and 6 October 2011.



## Record of Cabinet decisions

**Tuesday, 2 August 2011**

**3.00pm to 4.20pm**

**Date of publication: 3 August 2011**

**Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 11 August 2011  
The record of decisions are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Cabinet**

**Present:**

Councillor Rodney Chambers	Leader
Councillor David Brake	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
Councillor Jane Chitty	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth
Councillor Howard Doe	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services
Councillor Phil Filmer	Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
Councillor Tom Mason	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services
Councillor Mike O'Brien	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Customer Contact
Councillor Les Wicks	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
Councillor David Wildey	Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care

**In Attendance:**

Neil Davies, Chief Executive  
Rose Collinson, Director of Children and Adults  
Stephen Gaimster, Assistant Director Development, Economy and Transport  
Stephanie Goad, Assistant Director Communications Performance and Partnerships  
Mick Hayward, Chief Finance Officer  
Wayne Hemingway, Democratic Services Officer  
Richard Hicks, Assistant Director, Customer First, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance  
Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services  
Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Housing and Corporate Services/Monitoring Officer

### **Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Alan Jarrett (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance).

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

### Record of decisions

The record of the meeting held on 5 July 2011 was agreed and signed by the Leader as correct.

### Declarations of interest

Councillor Filmer declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Appointment to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee) because he was the responsible Portfolio Holder for bus lane adjudication.

### Local Development Framework

#### Background:

This report provided details of the publication draft version of the Core Strategy and associated documents relating to the Local Development Framework consisting of:

- A schedule of formal responses to the 'Pre-Publication Draft'
- An updated Local Development Scheme
- An updated Statement of Community Involvement
- An Interim Diversity Impact Assessment
- A Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy
- A preliminary Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Core Strategy.

The Council was required to prepare and keep under review a Local Development Framework in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Core Strategy established the overall development quantities and broad locations for development over a period of at least 15 years. This version of the Core Strategy was the penultimate draft version and was subject to a statutory 6 week public consultation.

Attachments 1-7, as referenced within the covering report, had been circulated to Cabinet Members separately.

#### ***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

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|----------------|--|
| <b>84/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet approved for public consultation purposes the Publication Draft Core Strategy (Attachment 1 to the report).</b>   |
| <b>85/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet approved the response to representations received on the Pre-Publication Draft Core Strategy (Attachment 2 to the report).</b>                              |
| <b>86/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet approved publication of the Interim Diversity Impact Statement, Second Interim sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment Scoping and</b> |

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

### Screening Report (Attachments 3 to 5 to the report).

- 87/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the revised Local Development Scheme (Attachment 6 to the report).**
- 88/2011**      **The Cabinet approved for public consultation purposes the revised Statement of Community Involvement (Attachment 7 to the report).**
- 89/2011**      **The Cabinet agreed to grant delegated authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth to make any necessary minor changes to the documents prior to their publication.**

### Reasons:

To comply with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and ensure that there is an up to date spatial planning framework for the area.

### Draft Lodge Hill Development Brief

#### Background:

This report provided details of a Draft Development Brief for development at the Ministry of Defence site at Lodge Hill, Chattenden. It was noted that Policy CS33 of the Publication Draft Core Strategy made a strategic allocation of an area of land at Lodge Hill. This was allocated for a new settlement to include up to 5,000 dwellings, at least 43,000m<sup>2</sup> employment floorspace, at least 5,000m<sup>2</sup> retail floorspace together with supporting infrastructure, community facilities and open space.

The site was a strategically important site for regeneration and growth in Medway. It would meet a significant portion of the area's housing need, including family housing, and had significant potential for higher value employment uses that would contribute to meeting the aims of the Council's Economic Development Strategy. The Draft Development Brief would be subject to a six week period of public consultation from 30 August 2011-10 October 2011.

The draft Development Brief, and its appendices, as referenced within the covering report, had been circulated to Cabinet Members (and Ward Members) separately.

#### **Decision number:**      **Decision:**

- 90/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the draft Lodge Hill Development Brief for public consultation.**

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

### Reasons:

A Development Brief for Lodge Hill will provide greater certainty for future developers and the local community and will assist in securing Medway's regeneration and growth.

### Proposal to Move the CDC to Temple Site

#### Background:

This report provided details of a proposal to locate the Child Development Services (CDC) for disabled children on part of the Temple site, Strood. The report set out the history of the service following its emergency relocation to a number of community locations across Medway in January 2009. It was noted that the NHS Medway Board (PCT) had considered a number of possible sites as potential locations including the former Temple School site, Strood, Canada House, Gillingham and Lordswood Healthy Living Centre, Chatham. Each of the locations were independently evaluated by Medway Community Estates and the NHS Medway Board agreed that the Temple site was the most realistic site to develop an integrated centre for disabled children.

The report provided the key findings from the feasibility study for the Temple site together with the risk management implications.

An exempt appendix set out the detailed financial implications and the Child Development Service feasibility study undertaken by Medway Community Estates.

#### **Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**91/2011**      **The Cabinet noted the PCT's feasibility study for the Child Development Service (CDC) and the supporting information from users, carers and Medway Foundation Trust.**

**92/2011**      **The Cabinet agreed to authorise the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to enter into negotiations with Medway NHS for a lease of part of the Temple School Block 3 and ancillary buildings for the provision of the Child Development Service, and to grant such lease subject to suitable terms being agreed.**

### Reasons:

There are considerable long-term benefits to disabled children in Medway in having an integrated Child Development Service (CDC) service on one site. There is no initial capital investment required by the council to release the property to Medway PCT. Leasing part of the site to the CDC does not limit the other options to use the

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

rest of the site. Leasing part of the site to the CDC will provide an annual rental income to the council, which can be used to offset some of the current costs of maintaining the retained element of the site.

### **Prescribed Alterations at Bradfields Community Special School**

#### **Background:**

This report provided details to seek approval to proceed to public consultation on the proposal to make prescribed alterations to Bradfields Community Special School by way of an expansion of the upper and lower age limits, an addition to the Special Educational Needs categories and an increase in the number of pupils. The report set out the background to the school noting that the sixth form of Bradfields would relocate from its current base of Brompton Academy to the former Ridge Meadow site from September 2011.

The proposals included the alteration of the age range to 3-25, to increase the categories provided for to include Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and to increase the number of pupils who can attend the school by up to 40.

The report set out the timetable for the statutory consultation process.

#### ***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

<b>93/2011</b>	<b>The Cabinet agreed to proceed to a period of public consultation to allow views to be expressed on the proposal to make prescribed alterations to Bradfields Community Special School, which would result in an alteration to the upper and lower age range limits from 11-19 currently, to 3-25 for children and young people with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and an increase in the number of pupils provided for. It is proposed to implement the alterations on or before 1 September 2012.</b>
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#### **Reasons:**

The Council is required to consult on the proposals in accordance with the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.

### **Appointment to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee**

#### **Background:**

This report provided details of a proposal to join the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee (BLASJC) and to appoint a representative to the BLASJC on behalf

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

of the Committee. This would enable the Council to issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) to any unauthorised vehicles that are recorded in a bus lane. It was noted that enforcement was due to start at the new Strood Riverside link which would use Medway's first fixed Auto Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera to capture contraventions.

It was noted that in accordance with legislation and the Council's Constitution (Article 10), the decision requested was a matter for the Leader of the Council to decide given that the authority to establish joint arrangements in respect of executive functions (i.e. the making of arrangements for bus lane adjudicators) was devolved to the Leader.

***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

**94/2011**      **The Cabinet recommended to the Leader that he approves joining the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee (BLASJC) and gives approval to enter into any agreements necessary to become a member of the joint committee in order that Medway Council can commence bus lane enforcement.**

**95/2011**      **The Cabinet recommended to the Leader that he appoints the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee.**

**96/2011**      **The Leader approved joining the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee (BLASJC) and give approval to enter into any agreements necessary to become a member of the Joint Committee in order that Medway Council can commence bus lane enforcement.**

**97/2011**      **The Leader appointed the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee.**

**Reasons:**

This will enable Medway Council to commence enforcement of bus lanes, via the issuance of penalty charge notices to support the implementation of the new Strood Riverside bus-link as well as the forthcoming opening of the dynamic bus station in Chatham.

### **Revenue Budget Monitoring 2011/2012**

**Background:**

This report gave details of the forecast outturn for the 2011/2012 financial year projected based on actual income and expenditure to June 2011 (the end of the first quarter).

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

It was noted that on 24 February 2011 the Council had set a General Fund net budget requirement of £184.959m for 2011/2012 (Medway Council £184.619m and Parish Councils £0.341m). Council Tax had been frozen at 2010/2011 levels.

This was the first quarterly report and it indicated, after management action, the outturn forecast for 2011/2012 stood at a £4m overspend.

The Cabinet accepted this report as urgent to enable it to receive and consider the first quarter budget monitoring information at the earliest opportunity.

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**98/2011**      **The Cabinet noted the result of the first round of revenue monitoring for 2011/2012 and instructed Directors to come forward with further proposals for management action to reduce the potential deficit.**

### Reasons:

Cabinet has the responsibility to ensure effective budgetary control to contain expenditure within the approved limits set by Council. Where a budget overspend is forecast, Cabinet supported by the corporate management team must identify measures to remove any excess expenditure.

### Capital Budget Monitoring 2011/2012

#### Background:

This report gave details of the capital monitoring position for the period to June 2011 (the end of the first quarter), with a forecast outturn for 2011/2012 and future years. The approved capital programme for 2011/2012 and future years was £107.7m, consisting of £53.6m in respect of brought forward schemes and £54.1m in respect of new approvals.

The report commented on the delivery of the capital programme and updated Members on a number of issues. The current forecast showed that £78m of the programme was forecast for spend during 2011/2012.

The Cabinet accepted this report as urgent to enable it to receive and consider the first quarter budget monitoring information at the earliest opportunity.

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**The Cabinet noted:**

- **The spending forecasts summarised at tables 1 and 3 in the report**
- **The additions to the Capital Programme and budget virements as detailed in paragraph 5.2 of the report.**

**99/2011      The Cabinet recommended to Council the additions to the Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report.**

**Reasons:**

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

### **Quarter 1 Council Plan Monitoring 2011/2012**

This report presented details of the Council's performance for the first quarter of 2011/2012. In particular, it included performance against indicators and actions agreed in the Council Plan 2011/2012.

It was noted that of the 47 key measures that could be reported this quarter 32 (68%) had achieved or outperformed the annual target and a further 4 (9%) were below target but within acceptable variance limits. 11 (23%) key measures were below the annual target. Additionally, there were 7 performance measures which were not rated as they were "data only" and 10 that could not be reported this quarter but had been included for Cabinet information.

The Cabinet accepted this report as urgent to enable it to receive and consider the latest performance information at the earliest opportunity.

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**The Cabinet noted performance for Quarter 1 2011/2012.**

**Reasons:**

Full and accurate performance reporting to elected Members is consistent with best practice, and allows them to review the council's performance.

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

### 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).

Appendix 1 to the report provided details of the posts.

<b><i>Decision number:</i></b>	<b><i>Decision:</i></b>
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<b>100/2011</b>	<b>The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following posts, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report to enable officers to commence the recruitment process:</b>
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**Business Support Department**

- a) Administration Officer (Housing Services)
- b) Accounting Technician

**Children and Adults**

- c) School Catering Manager
- d) Services Support Assistant (MILAC Team)

**Regeneration, Community & Culture**

- e) URBACT II Project Assistant
- f) Technical Assistant.

#### Reasons:

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

#### **Gateway 1 Batched Procurement Commencement: Abbey Court School, Rainham, Elaine Primary School, Strood, Twydall Primary School, Gillingham - Building Projects**

#### Background:

This report sought permission to commence the batched procurement of building works at Abbey Court School in Rainham, Elaine Primary School in Strood and Twydall Primary School in Gillingham.

## Cabinet, 2 August 2011

It was noted that the costs of the Abbey Court project would be met from the SEN Programme, the Elaine project from the Basic Need Programme and the Twydall project from the Primary Capital Programme.

The report considered the options available and recommended procurement via a below EU Threshold Select List. An exempt appendix set out details of the whole life costings and budget for the projects.

It was noted that the Strategic Procurement Board had considered and recommended this report to Cabinet on 6 July 2011.

An exempt appendix provided the detailed finance and whole-life costings information for the building projects.

***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

**101/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the Abbey Court School, Elaine Primary School and Twydall Primary School projects to proceed to Gateway 2 of the procurement process and invite tenders for the schemes of works, on the basis set out in paragraph 3.9 of the report (Procurement via a below EU Threshold Select List).**

**Reasons:**

The projects will support the delivery of the required improvements to Abbey Court, Elaine and Twydall Schools, within the required timeframes and budgets.

.....  
**Leader of the Council**

.....  
**Date**

**Wayne Hemingway/Anthony Law, Democratic Services Officers**

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## **Record of Cabinet decisions**

**Tuesday, 6 September 2011**

**3.00pm to 4.25pm**

**Date of publication: 8 September 2011**

**Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 16 September 2011  
The record of decisions are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Cabinet**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Rodney Chambers	Leader
	Councillor Alan Jarrett	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance
	Councillor David Brake	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
	Councillor Jane Chitty	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth
	Councillor Phil Filmer	Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
	Councillor Tom Mason	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services
	Councillor Mike O'Brien	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Customer Contact
	Councillor Les Wicks	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

**In Attendance:** Neil Davies, Chief Executive  
Alison Barnett, Director of Public Health  
Rose Collinson, Director of Children and Adults  
Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture  
Mick Hayward, Chief Finance Officer  
Richard Hicks, Assistant Director, Customer First, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance  
Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services  
Anthony Law, Democratic Services Officer  
Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Housing and Corporate Services/Monitoring Officer

### **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence was received from Councillor Howard Doe (Housing and Community Services) and Councillor David Wildey (Children's Social Care).

### **Record of decisions**

The record of the meeting held on 2 August 2011 was agreed and signed by the Leader as correct.

**Declarations of interest**

There were none.

**Leader's Announcement**

The Leader announced that an exempt report concerning Chatham Waterfront Bus Station had been included within a supplementary agenda. He had agreed that this should be considered as an urgent matter and it would be taken as agenda item 13.

**Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/2015**

**Background:**

This report set out the major financial issues facing the Council over the next three years. It also provided a framework for the more detailed preparation of the draft Revenue Budget for 2012/15.

The report included details of the council's financial position, together with a review of the Spending Review 2010, the council's strategic priorities and core values and the need for the Medium Term Financial Plan to be able to respond to the changing policy context in which the council and its partners operated.

An assessment of likely available resources and details of a number of key spending issues across the Council's directorates were set out. Members were advised that after allowing for a potential council tax increase and estimated savings from the transformational Better for Less programme, which sought to improve services and deliver efficiencies, there remained a potential deficit for 2012/13 of £9.445million. In order to retain the strategic aim of achieving a sustainable budget without recourse to reserves existing and emerging pressures would therefore be challenged and weight given to the efficiency agenda and the search for more cost effective means of delivery.

The report also set out the timetable for the development of the draft budget setting proposals and it was noted that business and service planning would run concurrently leading to the development of the Council Plan.

***Decision number:***

***Decision:***

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| <b>102/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet endorsed the underlying aims of the Medium Term Financial Plan.</b>   |
| <b>103/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet endorsed the forecast level of overall funding outlined in Section 4 of the report.</b>   |
| <b>104/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet instructed Portfolio Holders and Directors to identify savings and efficiencies to achieve a balanced budget for 2012/2013.</b> |

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

**105/2011**      **The Cabinet authorised the commencement of a consultation aimed at freezing incremental progression for the next 2 years to meet the financial constraints set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report.**

### **Reasons:**

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

### **Youth Justice Plan 2011-2012 (Policy Framework)**

#### **Background:**

This report outlined the Medway Youth Justice Plan 2011 – 2012, which detailed the following key objectives for the Medway Youth Offending Team (YOT) to March 2012:

- Prevent young people entering the criminal justice system
- Reduce the likelihood of re-offending by those Young People currently within the Youth Justice System
- Respond to and manage the impact of Deter Young Offender's and other high risk young people
- Identify and manage vulnerability issues
- Promote effective business change in response to the changing youth justice landscape

A delivery plan that supported these key objectives was included within the plan.

It was noted that the Youth Justice Plan had been developed following an inspection by HM Inspectorate of Probation and a separate inspection by the Care Quality Commission. The plan has also been circulated to partner organisations and endorsed by the Youth Offending Team Management Board.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the Youth Justice Plan on 19 July 2011 and details of their consideration and recommendation were set out in the report.

As a policy framework document the Youth Justice Plan would be referred to Council on 20 October 2011 for approval.

A diversity impact assessment screening was attached to the report. This indicated that a full diversity impact assessment was not required.

#### **Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**106/2011**      **The Cabinet recommended the Youth Justice Plan, as set out at Appendix A to the report, to Council for approval.**

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

### Reasons:

To ensure that Medway Council and other agencies have effective strategies for addressing youth offending behavior and delivers outcomes that have positive benefits for our communities. The Medway Youth Justice Plan has been reviewed by overview and scrutiny, been consulted on with key partners and the adoption of a new plan seeks to address the underlying local causes of youth crime.

### Establishment of a Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Medway

#### Background:

This report set out proposals for the establishment of a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Medway from April 2012 in response to the Health and Social Care Bill and following a facilitated event with key stakeholders in Medway on 11 July 2011.

The report set out details of the Health and Social Care Bill, which envisages a new role for local authorities in the co-ordination, commissioning, and overview (including scrutiny) of health, social care (both adults and children's), public health and health improvement. The role of the new Health and Wellbeing Board in promoting better integrated working was set out.

Whilst the full statutory responsibilities of the board would not be known until the Health and Social Care Bill was enacted the Department for Health was encouraging the establishment of a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board.

Proposals for setting up a shadow Board were set out in section 4 in the report covering membership, initial terms of reference and work programme items. A supplementary report was tabled at the meeting that clarified the proposed membership of the Medway Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board.

It was noted that views on the proposed approach had been sought from the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Health Partnership Board (at its meeting with Delivering Health Together in Medway Board) and the Medway Clinical Commissioning Group Board. Comments from each were summarised within the report.

In relation to the request from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment on resourcing the work of the Shadow Board the Leader advised that support for the Board would be accommodated within existing budgets in this financial year and that the cost for the next year would be considered as part of the 2012/13 budget setting process.

#### **Decision number:**

#### **Decision:**

**107/2011**

**The Cabinet agreed to establish a Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Medway from 1 April 2012 as a Cabinet Advisory Group which will start meeting in pre-shadow**

## **Cabinet, 6 September 2011**

**form from October 2011, with the proposed membership, terms of reference and initial work programme as set out in section 4 of the report and the supplementary report tabled at the meeting.**

- 108/2011**     **The Cabinet noted the comments from the Health Partnership Board, Clinical Commissioning Group Board and the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and agreed these should be taken into account by the Board as it develops its work programme.**
- 109/2011**     **The Cabinet agreed that the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee be advised that support for the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board would be accommodated within existing budgets in this financial year and that the cost for the next year would be considered as part of the 2012/13 budget setting process.**

### **Reasons:**

The establishment of a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board responds to the requirements of the Health and Social Care Bill and follows a facilitated event with key stakeholders in Medway on 11 July 2011.

### **Revocation of Decision to Amalgamate Luton Infant and Junior Schools**

#### **Background:**

The report requested consideration of whether or not to proceed with the implementation of the decision to close Luton Infant and Junior Schools, and in their place to open a new all through primary school in new buildings in September 2014.

It was noted that the proposals to close both Luton Schools and to open a new all through primary school in their place were approved by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator in June 2010. The rebuilding project was considered integral to the amalgamation process by the adjudicator and a condition set that planning permission for the new school buildings was to be in place by 31 December 2011. The adjudicator's decision was attached to the report.

The report outlined the implications of the Government's spending review and also the impact of a reduced level of devolved capital funding to schools. Members were therefore advised that the condition set by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator, when making the original decision, could not now be met and formal revocation of the original decision was necessary to remove the council's duty to implement the proposals.

It was noted that if Cabinet decided that it wished to request revocation, it would be necessary to publish and advertise revocation proposals and then submit the proposals together with any representations to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator for decision.

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**110/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the request to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator to revoke the decision made by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator on 8 June 2010 to close Luton Junior and Infant schools and open a new all through primary school and authorised the publication of statutory notices as required to give interested stakeholders the opportunity to comment on and raise objections to the proposal to request a revocation of such decision.**

**Reasons:**

The decision to approve the request to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator to revoke the decision made by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator would relieve Medway Council of its duty to implement the conditions of the determination and the financial burdens that would be placed upon the council. The above decision authorises the publication of statutory notices in relation to the revocation proposals.

### **Consultation Response - Revising the Charges at the Dartford-Thurrock River Crossing**

**Background:**

This report sought Cabinet's views on the Department for Transport's consultation on proposed changes to charges for vehicles using the existing Dartford crossing, as set out with the consultation document *Revising the Charges at the Dartford-Thurrock River Crossing*.

This report gave details of the consultation, which related to a two-stage increase in toll charges and other aspects of charging. The consultation paper also mentioned other proposals, including:

- a) suspension of charges at times of severe congestion;
- b) the use of newer charging technology;
- c) review of options for additional Crossing capacity.

The report put forward suggested wording for a formal response. During the discussion on this item it was agreed that the response should also be sent to the local Members of Parliament.

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**111/2011**      **The Cabinet supported the proposed responses to the consultation as set out in Table 2 of the report.**

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

**112/2011**      **The Cabinet requested the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Leader, to write directly to the Department for Transport and to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board to express Medway Council's views on the consultation.**

### **Reasons:**

The proposed new toll charges place increase financial burden on local Medway businesses and will lead to further congestion.

To ensure Medway Council's views are known.

### **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).

Appendix 1 to the report provided details of the posts.

### ***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

**113/2011**      **The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following posts, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report to enable officers to commence the recruitment process:**

#### **Business Support Department**

- a) Annual Audit Administration Assistant (x2)
- b) Curriculum Manager
- c) Learning Support Assistant
- d) Learning Support Assistant
- e) Legal Support Assistant
- f) Legal Support Officer
- g) Smokefree Play Coordinator
- h) Exchequer Officer
- i) Auditor

#### **Children and Adults**

- j) Catering Assistant
- k) Service Manager – LAC lead
- l) Support Officer - Youth Offending Team.

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

### Reasons:

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

### Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Homecare Service

#### Background:

This report sought permission to commence the retendering of a Homecare service in Medway.

It was noted that the current contract for the provision of homecare services was due to end on 31 March 2012 and that this was a key service for Medway's residents in terms of the Council's priority for adults maintaining their independence and living healthy lives.

The report considered the options available and recommended procurement via a formal tender process in line with EU Procurement Regulations. An exempt appendix set out details of the detailed finance and whole life costings.

It was noted that the Strategic Procurement Board had considered and recommended this Gateway 1 report to Cabinet on 3 August 2011.

A diversity impact assessment was attached to the report. This indicated that a full diversity impact assessment was not required.

#### **Decision number:**

**114/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the re-procurement of a Homecare service as per the preferred option highlighted at Section 4.1 'Preferred Option' of the report (formal tender process in line with EU Procurement Regulations).**

### Reasons:

This method of procurement will provide the opportunity to deliver much improved services. These services will be supported by a robust objective to improve service excellence that ensures more local people have services that meet their needs and aspirations.

### Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Social Care Systems Acquisition

#### Background:

This report sought permission to commence the procurement of a new Children and Adult's Social Care System(s) that would address the service recording, payments, charging and management information needs of both Children and Adult's Social care.

## Cabinet, 6 September 2011

To achieve collaborative working across the directorate, the procurement of an integrated system would allow the sharing of relevant data between the children's and adult's divisions. This would provide practitioners with a more complete picture of a child or adults' care requirements, reducing data entry for users, thereby enabling staff in both divisions to spend more time with service users.

It was noted that a recent market analysis exercise had suggested that there were shared systems available that will meet the needs of both sides of the social care business. It was reported that whilst the aim was to procure one system in line with the needs of the directorate, it may not be possible to meet the distinct needs of both services in one system in which case it may be necessary to buy two systems. This would need to be taken into account at the specification and tendering stage of the process.

The report considered the options available and recommended procurement via the Local Government Software Application Solutions framework. An exempt appendix set out detailed finance and whole-life costing information.

It was noted that the Strategic Procurement Board had considered and recommended this Gateway 1 report to Cabinet on 3 August 2011.

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**115/2011      The Cabinet approved this Gateway 1 High Risk Report and agreed to proceed to the next step of initiating a tender process as per the preferred option highlighted at Section 4.1 'Preferred Option' (to procure via Local Government Software Application Solutions).**

### **Reasons:**

The project underpins the Core Values of Medway Council and the commencement of the Social Care Systems procurement means that the business needs of the Children and Adults directorate are met in line with the Department for Education and Department of Health.

### **Exclusion of the press and public**

**Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**116/2011      The Cabinet agreed to exclude the press and public for the consideration of agenda item 13 (Proposed Agreement with Arriva – Chatham Waterfront Bus Station) as it contained commercially sensitive information under paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.**

## **Proposed Agreement with Arriva - Chatham Waterfront Bus Station**

### **Background:**

This exempt report sought approval for the Council to enter into agreements with Arriva Southern Counties Limited (Arriva) and Maidstone & District Motor Services Limited (MDMS) to accept a surrender of MDMS' lease of the existing Pentagon bus station and to enable Arriva to commence operations in the new Chatham Waterfront Bus Station.

The Cabinet agreed that the decisions set out below were urgent and should therefore not be subject to call-in. In line with rule 16.11 of Chapter 4, Part 5 of the Constitution, call-in could be waived where any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the Public's interests. It was considered that a call-in of the decisions set out below would jeopardise the ability for the bus station to be commissioned at the end of the construction programme and would incur additional costs for security, rates, loss of income and potential vandalism. The Chairmen of the Business Support and the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committees had agreed that the decisions proposed are reasonable in all the circumstances and to them being treated as a matter of urgency and to waive call in.

Additionally and in line with Rule 16 (Special Urgency) of the Access to Information Rules (Part 2 of Chapter 4 in the Constitution) it was noted that the Chairmen of the Business Support and the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committees had agreed that the taking of these decisions cannot be reasonably deferred.

### ***Decision number:***

### ***Decision:***

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>117/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet requested that the Council add the scheme for the lease surrender to the Council capital programme for the sum set out in section 8.1 of the report, to be funded from the General Reserve.</b>   |
| <b>118/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet agreed, subject to the addition of the scheme to the capital programme as set out at 8.1 of the report, to accept a surrender of MDMS' lease (from Medway Council) of the existing Pentagon Bus Station in consideration of the payments set out in paragraph 2.9 of the report and of Arriva entering into the Operator's Agreement of CBWS.</b> |
| <b>119/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, to enter into any necessary legal agreements to formalize the arrangements set out in this report.</b>   |

**Cabinet, 6 September 2011**

**120/2011      The Cabinet agreed that these decisions are considered urgent and therefore should not be subject to call-in.**

**Reasons:**

To enable the new bus station to be successfully brought into operation.

.....  
**Leader of the Council**

.....  
**Date**

**Wayne Hemingway/Anthony Law, Democratic Services Officers**

Telephone: 01634 332509/332008

Email: [democratic.services@medway.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@medway.gov.uk)

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## Record of Cabinet decisions

**Tuesday, 4 October 2011**

**3.00pm to 4.17pm**

**Date of publication: 5 October 2011**

**Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 13 October 2011  
The record of decisions are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Cabinet**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Alan Jarrett	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance
	Councillor David Brake	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
	Councillor Jane Chitty	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth
	Councillor Howard Doe	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services
	Councillor Phil Filmer	Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
	Councillor Tom Mason	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services
	Councillor Mike O'Brien	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Customer Contact
	Councillor David Wildey	Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care

**In Attendance:** Neil Davies, Chief Executive  
Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture  
Stephanie Goad, Assistant Director Communications, Performance and Partnerships  
Mick Hayward, Chief Finance Officer  
Wayne Hemingway, Democratic Services Officer  
Richard Hicks, Assistant Director, Customer First, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance  
Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services  
Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Housing and Corporate Services/Monitoring Officer

### **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rodney Chambers (Leader) and Les Wicks (Children's Services).

### **Record of decisions**

The record of the meeting held on 6 September 2011 was agreed and signed by the Deputy Leader as correct.

## Declarations of interest

There were none.

## Children and Young People's Plan 2011/2014 (Policy Framework)

### Background:

This report provided details of the draft Children and Young People's Plan 2011/2014. This Plan provided the key priorities for children's services in Medway together with the key priorities for partnership action to improve outcomes for Medway's children and young people. The Plan was informed by the Every Child Matters needs assessment which explored current data about needs and outcomes for children and young people together with an analysis of a range of information from a variety of multi-agency partners.

It was noted that there were 12 partnership priorities, which had a number of associated key actions that would drive the implementation of the priorities across the partnership. The priorities were attached to the following age groups: Pregnancy and Early Years; School Years and; Becoming an Adult.

The report had been previously considered by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (19 July 2011) and the Children's Trust Board (4 September 2011).

Details of a Diversity Impact Assessment screening form were set out in Appendix B to the report. The report stated that a full impact assessment was not required as all areas of activity covered in the plan were subject to the equalities policies of the relevant organisations involved in the partnership.

Additional information was tabled at the meeting which presented some revisions to the Plan, replacing pages 26, 50, 63, 78/79, 80/81, 85/86 and 93 of the Plan set out in the Cabinet agenda.

### **Decision number:**

**121/2011**      **The Cabinet noted the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and recommended approval of the Children and Young People's Plan 2011/2014 to Council on 20 October 2011, including the revisions to the Plan tabled at the meeting.**

### Reasons:

The Children and Young People's Plan is currently one of the key documents in the authority's policy framework.

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

This Plan sets the vision and strategic direction for Medway Council and the partners of the Medway Children's Trust to collectively improve children's lives and ensure Medway is a great place in which to live, learn and grow up.

### **Better for Less Programme - Establishment of New Models for Customer Contact and Administration**

#### **Background:**

This report provided details of the Better for Less Programme with particular regard to the establishment of new models for customer contact and administration. The programme had been agreed as part of the Council Plan 2011/2012 and that following extensive staff engagement, new models of shared customer contact and administration had been developed which would build on the existing practice present in different parts of the Council. These models were scheduled to be implemented in four phases over three years, with the first phase due to go live in January 2012.

The report stated that the models and associated staffing changes had been subject to formal consultation with those staff potentially affected within phase 1 services and it was noted that the numbers included in the consultation had been significant at over 500.

The report stated that the Council was complying with the requirements of its Diversity Impact Assessment process. A Diversity Impact Assessment was being carried out considering any issues that might arise as a result of staffing restructures and that this would be reported to a future meeting of the Employment Matters Committee.

#### ***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>122/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet approved the establishment of the new models of customer contact and administration, as set out in paragraph 3 of the report and appendices 2 and 3 and delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any minor modifications required to the customer contact and administration models flowing from consideration of counter proposals.</b> |
| <b>123/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet recommended the Council to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to implement any subsequent restructure that crosses directorate boundaries as set out in paragraph 3 of the report.</b>  |
| <b>124/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet recommended to Council that the budget for Libraries totalling £4.1m be transferred from Business Support to the Regeneration, Community and Culture Directorate.</b>  |

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

**125/2011**      **The Cabinet recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader, be given delegated authority to make such budget transfers across directorate headings as required to implement the new models of customer contact and administration, for this and subsequent phases of implementation, with reports of the delegations exercised to be included in quarterly budget monitoring reports to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees.**

### **Reasons:**

The authority, to make the structural and budget changes, is required to allow implementation of the new models for customer contact and administration. Staff recruitment to the new model is scheduled to take place from November onwards, to allow the new models to go live for phase 1 services in January 2012.

### **Housing Strategy 2011-2014**

#### **Background:**

This report provided details of the draft Housing Strategy which contained information about the housing market in Medway, demographics, housing needs and prioritisation and target setting. The Strategy aimed to reflect policies and priorities at national, regional and local level and would help to deliver the strategic housing priorities for Medway.

The report stated that the Strategy was designed around three aims consisting of: bridging the gap; early prevention and; health and housing, the aim of which was to produce seven outcomes.

The report had been considered by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 September 2011 and the Committee's views, alongside officers' responses, were set out in paragraph 6 of the report.

Details of a Diversity Impact Assessment screening form were set out in Appendix 2 to the report. The report stated that the screening found that it was not necessary to proceed to a full assessment.

#### **Decision number:**      **Decision:**

**126/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the Housing Strategy 2011-2014 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report subject to the inclusion of the recommendations from the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in paragraphs 7.2 – 7.7 of the report.**

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

### Reasons:

Approval of the Strategy will enable the Council to comply with the requirement of Section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 that the Council has a Local Housing Strategy and ensure that there is a common understanding of Medway's housing market and how gaps in housing and/or housing related support can be addressed.

### **Bradfields School - Business Case for Development of Autistic Spectrum Disorder Unit**

#### Background:

This report set out details of the business case, based on an initial feasibility study, for the Autistic Spectrum Disorders Unit at Bradfields School, Chatham. The Council had agreed to add this scheme to the capital programme in the sum of £1.5 million at the budget setting meeting on 24 February 2011. Subsequently, the Cabinet had agreed, on 2 August 2011, for a public consultation to take place to make prescribed alterations to the School including: an expansion of the upper and lower age limits; an addition to the SEN categories and; an increase in the number of pupils.

The report provided details of two options for the development of the School, with option 2 being the preferred option of the Design Team and the School.

An exempt appendix set out the detailed finance and whole-life costing information.

#### **Decision number:**

#### **Decision:**

**127/2011**

**The Cabinet approved the business case and the preferred option (option 2) to allow more detailed design work to be undertaken.**

#### Reasons:

Option 2 is the preferred choice of the design team and the school, as it provides the provision of the new accommodation adjacencies allowing for opportunities of fuller integration between the two existing school buildings. This option also provides best value for money.

The cost estimates indicate that the preferred scheme, which will deliver the identified accommodation requirements, should be affordable within the provisional budget envelope of £1.5m. Accurate cost estimates will be developed during the detailed design stage and presented for approval at Gateway 1 stage, prior to going out to tender.

## Enhancements to Young People's Concessionary Travel in Medway

### Background:

This report provided details of the options and future costs of young people's concessionary travel in Medway. It was noted that the Council had agreed an additional £250,000 for this purpose, at the budget setting meeting on 24 February 2011 and subsequently, modelling work was carried out by the Council's consultants, MCL, on the options. This included an improved half fare scheme and flat/capped fares for either £1 or 50p per single journey.

The report analysed the options and provided details of the actions required to ensure the scheme would be operational by January 2012.

Details of the Diversity Impact Assessment on the change in services was attached at Appendix B to the report. The screening form stated that it was not necessary to proceed to a full assessment.

### **Decision number:**      **Decision:**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>128/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet agreed the implementation of an extension to the existing young people's half fare travel concession to allow all young people up to the end of the academic year after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday with a valid pass to pay half fare at all times when travelling on any local bus service starting in Medway.</b> |
| <b>129/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Front Line Services and Finance, to finalise the name/branding of the enhanced scheme.</b>  |
| <b>130/2011</b> | <b>The Cabinet requested that officers evaluate the benefits of the scheme after 12 months in operation and consider any possible enhancements.</b>  |

### Reasons:

The proposed extension to the existing half fare travel concession on bus services will provide the young people of Medway with much improved transport opportunities and represents good value for money.

## Recycling Clear Bags

### Background:

This report provided details of proposals to continue to issue the single use clear sacks to work alongside the reusable bags. The report explained the current system in terms of kerbside recycling collection and the operational issues arising as a

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

consequence. Three options had been developed in terms of how the service could continue which were detailed in paragraph 3 of the report. The report also provided details of the financial implications regarding the continuation of the service.

Details of a Diversity Impact Assessment regarding the twin stream recycling service was attached as Appendix 3 to the report. The screening form stated that it was not necessary to proceed to a full assessment.

***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

**131/2011**      **The Cabinet approved Option 1, as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report, to enable the continuation of the issue of clear sacks.**

**132/2011**      **The Cabinet instructed the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture to report further on options for containing the anticipated overspending in 2011/12 as part of the revenue monitoring process.**

**Reasons:**

This provides the Council with a sustainable approach for recycling collection services, enabling the Council to continue to encourage and increase recycling rates whilst providing best value for money.

### **Proposed New Supermarket and Community Hub in Strood**

**Background:**

This report provided details of the proposed development of a new supermarket and Community Hub in Strood Town Centre. The report provided details of a number of Council sites which could be declared surplus and disposed of to facilitate the Community Hub (consisting of a library and potentially other services) within a new Tesco supermarket development.

An exempt appendix provided details regarding the potential short term lease of part of the Civic Centre site and detailed financial implications.

***Decision number:***      ***Decision:***

**133/2011**      **The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to declare surplus the land and buildings not required for highway improvements at 173-175 and 1a-7a Cuxton Road (as shown cross hatched black on the plan set out in Appendix 1 to the report) and proceed with their disposal**

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

upon the best terms reasonably obtainable.

**134/2011** The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to take a lease of the new Community Hub in Strood on the best terms reasonably obtainable.

**135/2011** The Cabinet delegated authority to the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to grant a short term (no more than 2 years) lease of part of the Civic Centre site, Strood, as set out in the exempt appendix, on the best terms reasonably obtainable.

**136/2011** The Cabinet agreed, once the new Community Hub is open, to delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to declare surplus the Library complex in Bryant Road, Strood (as edged black on the plan set out in Appendix 2 to the report) and proceed with its disposal on the best terms reasonably obtainable.

**137/2011** The Cabinet recommended to Full Council that the Temple Street Car Park and the adjoining yard (as shown edged black and hatched black on the plan set out in Appendix 1 to the report), are declared surplus and that it delegates authority to the Assistant Director of Housing and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to enable their disposal upon the best terms reasonably obtainable.

The Cabinet noted that a further report on the capital costs to the Council of the new Strood Community Hub will be submitted to Cabinet once Tesco's plans are further advanced, to be recommended to Council as an addition to the Capital Programme.

### **Reasons:**

To secure a new Community Hub in Strood Town Centre, rationalise the property estate and realise capital receipts from the sale of surplus property assets.

### **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).

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

Appendix 1 to the report provided details of one of the posts, with details of four further posts tabled at the meeting.

**Decision number:**

**Decision:**

**138/2011**

The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following posts, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report (and additional posts tabled at the meeting) to enable officers to commence the recruitment process:

**Business Support Department**

a) Electoral Services Officer

**Children and Adults**

b) Support Services Assistant – Redvers Centre

c) Support Services Assistant (CAST Team) (Temp) – Elaine Centre

d) Support Services Assistant – Woodlands Place

e) Service Support Assistant (MILAC) – Elaine Centre.

**Reasons:**

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

### **Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Connexions**

**Background:**

This report sought permission to commence the procurement of the Connexions Services contract in Medway, to begin in April 2012 for a five year term with an option to extend for a further two years. The contract would enable the Council to make available to young people below the age of 19 and relevant young adults (i.e. those aged 20 –25 with learning difficulties) support that would encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education and training.

The Strategic Procurement Board considered this report on 7 September 2011 and recommended approval to the Cabinet.

An exempt appendix provided details of finance and whole life costings.

**Decision number:**

**Decision:**

**139/2011**

The Cabinet approved the commencement of the procurement project to provide Connexions Services contract service as per the preferred option highlighted at Section 4.1 'Preferred Option' - Option 3.5 a (Open market

**procurement via one contract with one external provider with appropriate skills and resource in line with EU Procurement Regulations).**

**Reasons:**

The proposal underpins the Core Values of Medway Council and will meet the business needs of Children and Adults Directorate in line with the Department for Education requirements.

**Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Family Group Conference Service**

**Background:**

This report sought permission to commence the procurement of a Family Group Conference (FGC) service for a period of three years with the provision to extend for a further two years. The contract would provide for FGCs which would enable a child's or vulnerable adult's family and support network to establish a plan to keep the child or adult safe and deal with a range of issues that may be affecting them adversely.

The Strategic Procurement Board had considered this report on 7 September 2011 and exercised its duty under contract procedure rule 2.3.7 to upgrade this medium risk project to a high risk project for Cabinet consideration.

An exempt appendix provided details of the detailed finance and whole life costings.

***Decision number:***

***Decision:***

**140/2011**

**The Cabinet approved the commencement of the procurement project to provide a Family Group Conference Service as per the preferred option highlighted at Section 4.1 'Preferred Option' - Option 3.5 (Formal tender process in line with EU Procurement Regulations) together with Option 3.6 (Internal Medway Council Collaboration between departments).**

**Reasons:**

This method of procurement will provide the opportunity to deliver much improved services.

These services will be supported by a robust objective to improve service excellence that ensures that children and young people remain safe and vulnerable adults are protected.

The Family Group Conference model is an internationally recognised method of meeting the required outcomes for children on the cusp of care. Family Group

## Cabinet, 4 October 2011

Conferences are also recognised in court proceedings as providing solutions to a range of issues, including finding alternative carers for children.

### **Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Supporting People Services**

#### **Background:**

This report sought permission to commence the procurement of a range of services from April 2012 for three years with provisions to extend the contract for a further year. The contract would provide a range of services providing housing related support to vulnerable adults in Medway under the supporting people programme. Details of a Diversity Impact Assessment screening form were set out in Appendix B to the report. The report stated that the procurement of the project would not have an adverse effect on the equality of access to the supporting people services.

The Strategic Procurement Board had considered this report on 7 September 2011 and recommended approval to Cabinet.

#### **Decision number:**

**141/2011**      **The Cabinet approved the re-procurement of housing related support services as per the preferred option highlighted at Section 4.1 'Preferred Option' - Formal tender process in line with EU Procurement Regulations.**

#### **Reasons:**

This method of procurement will provide the opportunity to deliver much improved services. These services will be supported by a robust objective to improve service quality and maximise independence for service users ensuring that more vulnerable people can have access to services that meet their needs and aspirations.

.....  
**Leader of the Council**

.....  
**Date**

**Wayne Hemingway/Anthony Law, Democratic Services Officers**

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