

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet which took place in the Council Chamber at County Hall, Chelmsford at 10.15am on Tuesday 20 June 2023

Present:

Councillor	Cabinet Member Responsibility
Cllr Kevin Bentley	Leader of the Council (Chairman)
Cllr Louise McKinlay	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community, Equality, Partnerships and Performance
Cllr Tony Ball	Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability
Cllr Malcolm Buckley	Waste Reduction and Recycling
Cllr Graham Butland	Cabinet Member for Devolution, the Arts, Heritage and Culture
Cllr Beverley Egan	Children's Services and Early Years
Cllr Lee Scott	Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport
Cllr John Spence	Health and Adult Social Care
Cllr Lesley Wagland	Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning
Cllr Chris Whitbread	Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs

Cllrs Susan Barker, Mark Durham, Alan Goggin, Carlo Guglielmi, Ivan Henderson, Bob Massey, Mark Platt, Peter Schwier and Laureen Shaw were also present. Cllr David King attended remotely via Zoom.

1. Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest.

The report of Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received, and the following were noted:

1. There had been no changes of membership since the last meeting.
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Mike Mackrory, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group (represented by Cllr David King) and Chris Pond, Leader of the Non-aligned Group.
3. Whilst not a declarable interest, for transparency Cllr Malcolm Buckley noted that Castledon School was in his electoral division.

2. Minutes: 23 May 2023

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 23 May 2023, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Questions from the public

None.

4. Procurement of a service to deliver positive outcomes for people with multiple and complex needs (FP/092/03/23)

The Cabinet received a report concerning procurement of a contract for provision of a service of support for people with multiple and complex needs. The existing contract was due to end on 31 March 2024 and could not be extended.

Responding to questions by Cllrs Ivan Henderson and David King, the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social expressed confidence that the service delivered under the new contract would be of the same standard as the current one and confirmed that account had been taken of the potential impact of inflationary pressures on service quality. He offered to meet with Cllr King outside the meeting for further discussion on the issues raised.

Resolved:

1. Agreed to launch a competitive procurement using the open procedure to procure a provider to deliver an Essex-wide Multiple and Complex Needs Service at a maximum total value of £9.5m over the initial five-year contract period. The estimated cost in year one is £1.9m.
2. Agreed that the contract length will be five years with an option to extend for four years on a two plus two-year basis.
3. Agreed to apply the following award criteria in the procurement: 30% price, 70% quality of which 10% of the quality score will assess social value.
4. Agreed to authorise the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care to award the contract to the successful bidder following completion of the procurement process.

5. Construction Works at Castledon School (FP/109/04/23)

Whilst not a declarable interest, for transparency, Cllr Malcolm Buckley informed the meeting that Castledon School is located within his electoral division.

The Cabinet considered a report which sought approval to carry out construction works at Castledon School, Wickford to provide suitable and permanent facilities for the school's existing pupil admission number.

In presenting the report, Councillor Tony Ball, Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability expressed thanks to all staff working in Essex's special schools.

The Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability highlighted the following in response to questions and

comments by Cllrs Ivan Henderson, David King, Malcolm Buckley, Peter Schwier, Carlo Guglielmi, Alan Goggin and John Spence:

- A written response would be sent to Cllr Ivan Henderson providing details of schools in Essex with temporary accommodation in similar condition to that at Castledon. Cllr Ball confirmed that the accommodation to be replaced at Castledon, though unsuitable, remained in serviceable condition.
- The Cabinet Member confirmed his awareness of the parking issues affecting the school.
- The Cabinet Member had written to Members setting out the Council's response to recently identified safety issues around the historic use of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in schools and other public buildings. Further information would be provided as the situation developed. Members had also been invited to briefings on the education future planned maintenance programme and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) sufficiency.

Resolved:

1. Agreed to carry out construction works at Castledon School, Wickford so that it has the permanent accommodation required for its existing 240 pupil places along with 19 new car parking spaces and two mini-bus parking spaces.
2. Agreed to authorise the Head of Infrastructure Delivery to award a contract for enabling works to Morgan Sindall Construction PLC once he is satisfied that the enabling works costs are within the agreed budget and represent value for money.
3. Agreed to authorise the Head of Infrastructure Delivery to award a contract for the main construction works to Morgan Sindall Construction PLC once he is satisfied that:
 - (a) The Academy Trust has given formal agreement to the works being undertaken;
 - (b) Any relevant planning permission required for these works has been granted;
 - (c) The enabling works costs are within the agreed budget and represent value for money; and
 - (d) Arrangements are in place for the end user(s) of the building to be provided with collateral warranties by the principal contractors.
4. Agree to reprofile the budget as detailed in the Confidential Appendix to report FP/109/04/23).

**6. Decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members
(FP/119/05/23)**

The report was noted.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Cabinet would take place at 10.15am on Tuesday 18 July 2023 in the **Council Chamber** at County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH.

8. Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person).

**9. Confidential Appendix: Construction Works at Castledon School
(FP/109/04/23)**

The confidential appendix to report FP/109/04/23, to which minute 5, above, refers, was noted.

10. Urgent Exempt Business

There was no urgent exempt business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.55am.

**Chairman
18 July 2023**