

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet that was held remotely on Tuesday, 26 May 2020

Present:

Councillor	Cabinet Member Responsibility
Councillor D Finch	Leader of the Council (Chairman)
Councillor T Ball	Economic Development
Councillor S Barker	Customer, Communities, Culture and Corporate
Councillor R Gooding	Education and Skills
Councillor L McKinlay	Children and Families
Councillor J Spence	Health and Adult Social Care
Councillor S Walsh	Environment and Climate Change Action
Councillor C Whitbread	Finance

Councillors Mackrory, Pond, Henderson, Turrell, Young, Henry, Buckley, Durham, Pratt, Maddocks, Garnett, Weston, Moran, Aldridge, Wagland, Jackson and Mitchell were also present.

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

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

1. Councillor Whitbread had been appointed Cabinet Member for Finance since the last meeting of Cabinet.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Bentley (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure), and D Madden (Cabinet Member for Performance, Business Planning and Partnerships).
3. There were no declarations of interest

2. **Minutes: 17 March 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2020 were agreed as a correct record and would be signed by the Chairman.

3. **Questions from the public**

Questions and representations were received from Mr I and Mrs L Blanchette, Mr P Robinson (CBE) and Professor A Vickers in relation to Agenda item no.6 (A120-A133 Link Road and Colchester Rapid Transit: Preferred Routes).

Councillor Finch responded to the questions, that related to the impact on air pollution and the environment, the timing of any land purchases within the

context of the planning approval process and the ongoing evidence that the proposals were still sound given the possible impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Establishment of a Provider Framework for Supported Living Care for Adults with Disabilities (FP/678/04/20)

The Cabinet received a report seeking approval to establish a multi-supplier Framework for the provision of care and support services within Supported Living schemes to adults with disabilities in a way that is aligned with the Care Act and gives the adult choice.

Councillor Spence responded to questions from Councillors Mackrory and Henderson in relation to the options available to the Council should the CQC rating of 'Good' or 'Outstanding' required of providers drop below these levels, and clarification of the hourly rates that would be payable.

Resolved:

1. Authorise the procurement of a four-year multi-supplier Supported-Living Framework agreement (the Framework) of providers of care and support services through an OJEU-compliant procurement process.
2. Authorise the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care to award the contracts to the successful providers, following completion of the procurement.
3. Agree that the Framework will operate on fixed hourly rates, initially £15.92 for standard placements and £17.80 for enhanced complex placements.
4. Agree that the Supported Living Framework can be re-opened to enable new providers to bid for inclusion on the Framework up to three times a year to increase choice for Adults within Essex.
5. Note the proposal that the Director, Commissioning, Adult Social Care may use their delegated authority to re-open the framework where it is proposed to without any changes and therefore no financial implications.
6. Agree that the Director of Commissioning can authorise the use of a mini-competition to appoint a Care and Support Provider for a Supported Living Scheme where necessary.

5. Social Care Case Management Programme: Interim Procurement Decision (FP/623/01/20)

Cabinet received a report seeking agreement on the route to market for the interim contractual arrangements for social care case management (SCCM) systems. The report also provided context and key information about SCCM systems used across the Council.

Resolved:

1. Agree to call off from the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) Data and Application Solutions (DAS) Framework (the Framework) to procure a contract for SCCM for an initial term of two years with the option to extend for a further three one-year periods, with the contract to commence on 23 July 2021.
2. Agree that the Executive Director for Children and Families, in consultation with the Executive Director for Finance and Technology, will make a decision on the statement of requirements, including whether or not the Youth Offending Case Management System is included in the new contract from July 2021.
3. Agree that the Executive Director for Children and Families, in consultation with the Executive Director for Finance and Technology, will make a decision on the award of the contract following an analysis of the most economically advantageous supplier using the award criteria in section 3.
4. Note that the decision on any extension will be taken by the Cabinet Member.
5. A request for funding to initiate the longer-term SCCM discovery and procurement project will be submitted when the critical team members are released from their work on the COVID-19 emergency.
6. **A120-A133 Link Road and Colchester Rapid Transit: Preferred Routes (FP/648/03/20)**

Cabinet received a report seeking agreement of a preferred option for the A120 to A133 link road, and to agree to take forward for further consideration the RTS, Options B2 and B5, C1 and C2, along with routing through the town centre. The report also requested authority to progress the preferred route for the A120- A133 Link Road through preliminary design, planning application and prepare information for land negotiations, including preparation in parallel for Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) should it be needed.

Councillor Finch provided responses to questions by Councillors Young, Pond, Henderson and Turrell in relation to the need to ensure an infrastructure first approach particularly providing sustainable walking and cycling options, the ways in which the building of new homes could support the local economy, the need to ensure that the RTS was non-polluting, the management of financial risks, and the need for ongoing communication regarding proposals and possible modifications.

Additionally Councillor Finch proposed that Councillor Bentley deliver a briefing to all Councillors on the RTS concept and the models considered to date in order to ensure Councillors were fully informed.

Resolved:

1. Note the outcome of the consultation on the A120 to A133 Link Road and Rapid Transit System.
 2. Agree to adopt Option 1C Variant, as set out in Appendix E, as the preferred route option for the A120-A133 link road.
 3. Agree to progress Option 1C Variant through preliminary design, planning application and prepare information for land negotiations (including information in parallel for preparation for compulsory purchase).
 4. Agree that the Director, Capital Delivery may acquire land agreed by negotiation in relation to the preferred route for the A120-A133 link road.
 5. With respect to the Rapid Transit System, agree to develop Options B2 and B5 including High Street area for the town centre to Greenstead roundabout part of the rapid transit scheme and Options C1 and C2 route from Greenstead Roundabout to the proposed garden community.
 6. Agree that the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure may agree the final proposed route of the Rapid Transit System.
7. **Decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members (FP/647/03/20)**

The report of decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members since the last meeting of the Cabinet was noted. The report included details of urgent key decisions taken without being on the forward plan and exempted from call in, and other decisions exempted from call in in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Cabinet would take place on Tuesday 16 June 2020 at 10.00am. It was expected that the meeting would be held online.

9. **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

10. **Urgent Exempt Business**

There was no urgent exempt business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.46am.

Chairman - 21 July 2020