

Essex County Council

10 May 2022

Order Paper

Prayers The meeting will be preceded by Prayers led by Councillor John Spence, a Lay Canon in the Church of England.

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Agenda item 12 Other Appointments

When the agenda was published the Outside Bodies appointment to the London Southend Airport Consultative Committee was shown as Councillor McIvor. This is now amended to remain as Councillor Cunningham.

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Agenda item 14 Motions

The following amendments to Motions have been received:

Motion 1 Mental Health Services for Young People

An amendment to be moved by **Councillor Ball** and seconded by **Councillor Spence**.

(The words deleted are shown ~~struck through~~ and additions are shown underlined)

'This Council gratefully recognises the work of schools, charities, mental health professionals, social workers, family support workers and our own officers, and notes the important role they play in the lives of children and young people.

This Council ~~however~~ acknowledges there has been an increase in the number of mental health problems and illness including self-harm in some of our schools ~~...despite the Everyone's Essex aspiration,~~ and demand for mental health support services for this age group is now ~~greatly exceeds supply.~~ placing a great deal of strain on current capacity.

Council therefore:

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- ~~Calls on the Government to increase funding to local government and health services for young people's issues~~
 - ~~Asks Cabinet to review available budgets and wherever possible to redistribute funds to provide the support needed~~
 - ~~Refers this subject formally to the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee and the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee with a request they conduct an urgent review of mental health services for young people and report back during 2022.'~~

This Council also acknowledges that this is a complex issue with no single solution and therefore formally refers it to the relevant Cabinet Members as well as to the Scrutiny Board so that arrangements for a joint review by the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee & the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee can be arranged with a request that they report back to this Council by the end of the calendar year with their recommendations to address this issue.'

(The motion, if amended, would then read:)

'This Council gratefully recognises the work of schools, charities, mental health professionals, social workers, family support workers and our own officers and notes the important role they play in the lives of children and young people.

This Council acknowledges there has been an increase in the number of mental health problems and illness including self-harm in some of our schools and demand for mental health support services for this age group is now placing a great deal of strain on current capacity.

This Council also acknowledges that this is a complex issue with no single solution and therefore formally refers it to the relevant Cabinet Members as well as to the Scrutiny Board so that arrangements for a joint review by the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee & the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee can be arranged with a request that they report back to this Council by the end of the calendar year with their recommendations to address this issue.'

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Motion 2 Bus Back Better

An amendment to be moved by **Councillor Henderson** and seconded by **Councillor McGurran**.

(The words deleted are shown ~~struck through~~ and additions are shown underlined)

'This Council recognises the benefits to the economy and environment that increasing bus usage across the County would bring, including, contributing to the priorities set out in the adopted Everyone's Essex plan.

The Council also welcomes the proposed Enhanced Partnership Plan which will “level-up” the bus network across the county and make buses a more accessible and attractive travel option for residents in Essex.

This Council therefore:

- (1) Supports the measures and ambitions set out in the Enhanced Partnership to increase bus usage in Essex.
- (2) Calls on the Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport to write to the ~~Department for Transport, asking them to provide additional support and resources to ensure that the full objectives of the Enhanced Partnership can be met~~ Prime Minister Boris Johnson, asking him to honour his pledge to provide substantial financial support and resources to ensure the residents of Essex have access to cheaper, faster, greener, and more reliable bus services.

(The motion, if amended, would then read:)

‘This Council recognises the benefits to the economy and environment that increasing bus usage across the County would bring, including, contributing to the priorities set out in the adopted Everyone’s Essex plan.

The Council also welcomes the proposed Enhanced Partnership Plan which will “level-up” the bus network across the county and make buses a more accessible and attractive travel option for residents in Essex.

This Council therefore:

- (1) Supports the measures and ambitions set out in the Enhanced Partnership to increase bus usage in Essex.
- (2) Calls on the Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport to write to the Prime Minister Boris Johnson, asking him to honour his pledge to provide substantial financial support and resources to ensure the residents of Essex have access to cheaper, faster, greener, and more reliable bus services’.

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Motion 3 School Streets

An amendment to be moved by **Councillor McIvor** and seconded by **Councillor McQuiggan**

(The words deleted are shown ~~struck through~~ and additions are shown underlined)

‘The physical and mental health of Essex children has ~~markedly~~ worsened in recent years. ~~Many are obese or overweight (4 in 10 by Year 6).~~ with 4 in 10

~~obese or overweight by Year 6, 1 in 6 are likely to have a mental health problem- and under Under half are active enough and that number which is declining. This is unacceptable when we know In contrast active children are less overweight, happier, more resilient, more trusting, and less likely to have mental health issues.~~

~~Active Travel, and as part of that, School Streets, would help significantly with these issues. School Streets incorporates exercise into daily routines, as well as reducing congestion and improving air quality. But we are failing the children of Essex as not enough School Streets are underway. Some areas are not seen as a priority, and most are not properly funded.~~

~~This Council believes that this is a complex problem, with no single solution, although initiatives such as “School Streets” and the work being undertaken by Active Essex can certainly play a role.~~

~~This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport to ensure existing School Street projects are prioritised and fully funded and delivered at pace. We also ask the Cabinet Member to commit to invest in safe cycle and pedestrian routes to connect these and future School Streets to the communities they serve and to work with the NHS and the DfT, to secure their help and funding to the benefit of our community’s and the physical and mental health of our children.’~~

~~Building on the successful work already underway for safer streets and its commitment to sustainable and active travel, this Council calls on the Cabinet to bring forward its ambitious plans to further improve health, wellbeing, and the environment for all residents, to the October 2022 Full Council.’~~

(The motion, if amended, would then read:)

‘The physical and mental health of Essex children has worsened in recent years, with 4 in 10 obese or overweight by Year 6, 1 in 6 likely to have a mental health problem and under half active enough which is declining. In contrast, active children are less overweight, happier, more resilient, more trusting, and less likely to have mental health issues.

This Council believes that this is a complex problem, with no single solution, although initiatives such as “School Streets” and the work being undertaken by Active Essex can certainly play a role.

Building on the successful work already underway for safer streets and its commitment to sustainable and active travel, this Council calls on the Cabinet to bring forward its ambitious plans to further improve health, wellbeing, and the environment for all residents, to the October 2022 Full Council’

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