

Summary of Decisions taken at a meeting of the Cabinet held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Tuesday 19 June 2018

Published with effect from Tuesday 19 June 2018. Provided that a decision is not called-in by close of business on Friday 22 June, it can then be implemented.

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Present:

Councillor	Cabinet Member Responsibility
D Finch	Leader of the Council (Chairman)
S Barker	Customer and Corporate
R Gooding	Education and Skills
S Lissimore	Culture and Communities
L McKinlay	Finance, Commercial and Traded Services
D Madden	Children and Families
G Mohindra	Economic Development
J Spence	Adults and Health
S Walsh	Environment and Waste

Councillors J Aldridge, M Durham, A Erskine, M Mackrory, A Turrell, L Wagland and J Young 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. There had been no changes in membership since the last meeting;
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Kevin Bentley, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Ivan Henderson, Leader of the Labour Group (substituted by Julie Young) and Chris Pond, Leader of the Non-aligned Group.
3. The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor Mackrory declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 (Annual Report 2017-18) as he represented an electoral division in Chelmsford and wished to ask a question concerning potential improvements to the Army and Navy Roundabout (minute 4 below refers).

2. Minutes: 22 May 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Questions from the public

None.

4. Annual Report 2017 - 18 (FP/142/05/18)

(Councillor Mackrory declared an interest in this item – minute 1 above refers)

The Cabinet was asked to approve the Council's Annual Report which provided a commentary on progress made during 2017/18 in delivering the aims outlined in the 2017-21 Organisation Strategy and shared end of year performance information against organisation targets.

The following information was provided in response to Questions and comments by Councillors Mackrory, Henderson and Pond:

- The Cabinet Member for Adults and Health advised that an agreement had been reached with ACL that, due to other pressures, the annual dividend payable to the Council would not be sought for the financial year 2017/2018.
- With regard to the under spend on Highways (paragraph 8),
- The Cabinet Member for Adults and Health agreed that changes to the charging regime.

Resolved:

That the Annual Report 2017/18 be approved in the form attached as Appendix 1 to report FP/142/05/18, for publication on the Council's website.

5. Procurement of Integrated Domestic Abuse Services (FP/124/04/18)

The Cabinet's approval was sought for the Council to work with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for the joint procurement of integrated domestic abuse services. The services concerned (Domestic Abuse Community Services (DACs) and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors Services (IDVA)) would cover the ECC, Southend and Thurrock Council areas, with all services outside of ECC's area to be funded by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills provided the following information in response to questions asked by Councillors Pond, Henderson and Mackrory:

- The decision had been taken to exclude Essex Outdoors from the sale of EES as the significant difference between its type of provision and that of the other services to be included meant that they would not form a coherent portfolio.
- Consideration had not yet been given as to whether the capital receipt from the sale of EES should be ring-fenced to the education budget.

Resolved:

1. That the Council should jointly procure and commission the Integrated Domestic Abuse Services with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) on the following basis:
 - Essex County Council (ECC) to enter into a collaboration agreement with the PFCC before the contract is awarded;
 - A competitive procurement using a single stage procurement process under which the Council will evaluate all bids;
 - Up to four contracts being awarded, one for each of the lots set out in paragraph 3.13 of report FP/124/04/18; and
 - Contract(s) commencing on 1 April 2019 with a duration of five years and an option to extend for a further two years to 31 March 2026.
2. That the Cabinet Member for Adults and Children may decide on the award of the contract(s) following completion of the procurement process subject to the prior completion of a collaboration agreement between the PFCC and ECC for the parties to commit to funding domestic abuse services in Essex, Southend and Thurrock. For the avoidance of doubt, the Council will only commit to fund these services in Essex and no funds will be provided to fund these services in Southend and/or Thurrock. Only the PFCC will commit funds for service to be provided in the areas of Southend and Thurrock. Express provisions to that effect shall be included in the collaboration agreement between the two partners.

6. Essex Hate Crime Prevention Strategy 2018-2021 (FP/162/05/18)

The Cabinet's endorsement was sought for the Essex Hate Crime Prevention Strategy 2018-2021. The purpose of the Strategy was to tackle hate crime in Essex and recognise the work undertaken by the multi-agency Strategic Hate Crime Prevention Partnership.

In presenting the report, the Cabinet Member for Culture and Communities commented that the Strategy was intended to facilitate the exposure of hate crime and to ensure that victims knew where support was available.

The following points arose from consideration of the report:

- No detail had been provided regarding the measures planned to ensure enforcement of the Strategy.
- The organisation of regular events would assist in the promotion of community cohesion. It would also be helpful for the Strategy to capture examples of existing good practice in this area.
- The Cabinet Member for Culture and Communities undertook to provide a written response to Councillors Young and Mackrory regarding the strategy in place for targeting resources in particular areas and providing details of events taking place throughout the County.

Resolved:

That the work undertaken by the Strategic Hate Crime Prevention Partnership to develop a three-year county-wide strategy for tackling hate crime be endorsed.

7. Decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members (FP/151/05/18)

The report of decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members since the last meeting of the Cabinet was noted.

8. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Cabinet would take place on Tuesday 17 July 2018 at 10.00am.

The meeting closed at 10.50am.