

By: Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 10 December 2008

Subject: Response from Cabinet to the decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 22 October 2008

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report sets out the response from the Cabinet meeting on 1 December to decisions from the last Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting on 22 October 2008.

Introduction

1. It was reported at the meeting of this Committee on 23 April 2008 that the Leader had agreed that the decisions from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee would be reported to the following meeting of the Cabinet for a response.
2. The decisions from the meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 22 October 2008 were reported to the Cabinet meeting on 1 December 2008 and the response from Cabinet is set out in the table attached as an Appendix to this report.

Recommendation

That responses from Cabinet to the decisions made at the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on 22 October be noted.

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Background Information: *Nil*

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – 22 October 2008

| Title | Purpose of Consideration | Invitees | Decisions | Cabinet Member Response |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| An Academy for Sevenoaks | To question the Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE) and Ms Lay, Area Children's Services Officer (Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells) on the process surrounding the establishment of academies | Mr C Dance , Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE) and Ms C Lay , Area Children's Services Officer (Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We would ask the Cabinet Member for Operations, Resources and Skills (CFE) to report back to our Committee at the appropriate time to clarify the membership of the Academy Trust, particularly in relation to the inclusion of representatives of the two schools that are proposed to be replaced by the academy. 2. The Area Children's Services Officer (Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells) be asked to provide a guide to help our Committee's understanding of the academy process; further information for Committee Members on the levels of social deprivation in the Sevenoaks area that justifies the submission of the Expression of Interest for an Academy in that area; and, information relating to the possible increase in travelling time/cost for students attending the Academy and the consequent impact on the environment. 3. We note the assurance of the Area Children's Services Officer (Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells) that places at the new Academy will not be determined on the basis of selection by ability. | <p>This is agreed</p> <p>This is agreed and officers have been asked to provide this information direct to members of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee.</p> |

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| Gravesham Neighbourhood Forums | To question the Leader of the Council and the Community Liaison Manager about the operation of Neighbourhood Forums | Mr A T Bowles, Lead Member and Mr W Farmer, Community Liaison Manager | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Committee notes the development of joint neighbourhood forums in Gravesham for a one year pilot and wishes the individuals involved every success 2. The final timetable of meetings for the 3 Forums be circulated to Members of our Committee as soon as it is available 3. Our Committee was pleased to be advised that appropriate resources will be provided to meet the demands of the review of localism across Kent, which we regard as essential. In particular, we would ask that the Council's Communication and Media Centre provide greater publicity for local board/neighbourhood forum meetings. 4. Our Committee wishes to receive a full report on the outcome of the various localism pilots taking place across the County in September 2009. | <p>Agreed and officers have been asked to provide this information direct to members of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Officers in the Communications and Media Centre have been advised accordingly</p> <p>Noted. A report on the localism pilot schemes will be submitted to the County Council at its meeting on 11 December 2008</p> |
| Launch of Health Watch | To question the Cabinet Member for Public Health and the Head of Policy (Public | Mr R A Marsh, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Mr M Lemon, Head | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Committee welcomes the launch of Health Watch and the potential benefits of the service to the people of Kent. | |

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| | Health) about the launch of Health Watch, with particular reference to the timetable for the project, its functions and its relationships with other organisations | of Policy (Public Health) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Our Committee was pleased to note the addition of social care services to the remit of Health Watch 3. Our Committee was pleased to note the comments of the Cabinet Member for Public Health of his intention to submit quarterly progress reports to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 4. Our Committee asks for a full report in December 2009, which provides a full assessment of the number, nature and geographical origin of the calls made to Health Watch, to include information about how services have or will be shaped in the future to respond to common or regular concerns from those individuals contacting Health Watch. In addition, the report should include a full assessment of the value for money of the Health Watch service. | Noted and agreed |
| Treasury Management | To question the Cabinet Member for Finance, The Director of Finance and the Head of Financial Services about KCC's treasury management | Mr N J D Chard , Cabinet Member for Finance, Ms L McMullan , Director of Finance and Mr N Vickers , Head of Financial Services | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Committee notes the ongoing preparation of the report by PwC into KCC's treasury management policies and asks that the report is made available for scrutiny by our Committee as soon as it is available. 2. We ask that a copy of the contract | <p>Officers have been asked to provide a copy of the PwC report to the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee as soon as it becomes available.</p> <p>Agreed and officers will</p> |

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| | policies | | <p>between KCC and Butlers be provided to Members of our Committee on a confidential basis</p> <p>3. We welcome the addition of Members of the Budget IMG to the membership of the Economic Management Group, set up and chaired by the Leader of the Council</p> <p>4. We expect Butlers to attend a meeting of our Committee at an appropriate stage in the future, following the completion of the PwC report.</p> | <p>arrange this</p> <p>The first meeting of the Economic Management Group took place on 3 November 2008.</p> <p>Butlers will be asked to attend a future meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and this will be ties in with the publication of the PwC report.</p> |