

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 16 April 2012.

PRESENT: Mr P B Carter (Chairman), Mr G K Gibbens, Mr R W Gough, Mr P M Hill, OBE, Mr A J King, MBE, Mr J D Simmonds, Mr B J Sweetland, Mr M J Whiting and Mrs J Whittle

ALSO PRESENT: Mr A Wickham

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr M Austerberry (Corporate Director, Environment and Enterprise), Mr D Cockburn (Corporate Director of Business Strategy and Support), Mr A Ireland (Corporate Director, Families and Social Care), Ms M Peachey (Kent Director Of Public Health), Mr G Wild (Director of Governance and Law), Mr A Wood (Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement), Mrs S Rogers (representing the Corporate Director of Education, Learning and Skills), and Ms A Slaven (representing the Corporate Director of Customer and Communities)

Before commencement of the meeting Mr Carter led a minute's silence in memory of Mr Kevin Lynes (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development).

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

20. Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 March 2012

(Item 3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

21. Review of the Executive Scheme of Officer Delegation

(Item 6 - report by the Deputy Leader and the Director of Governance and Law)

(1) This report presented a number of options for a new Executive Scheme of Officer Delegation, and recommended that Cabinet endorse a Member-led approach as set out in the Appendix to the Cabinet report.

(2) Mr King said that the recommended approach was consistent with the council's philosophy that members decide and officers deliver. Mr Wild said that the new scheme would remove some of the bureaucracy around the exercise of delegated powers, but also some of the risks.

(3) Cabinet resolved to agree the new Member-led Executive Scheme of Officer Delegation as set out in the Appendix to the Cabinet report.

22. Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Exception Report 2011-12

(Item 4 - report by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Business Support, and the Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement)

(1) This report summarised the latest forecast revenue and capital budget monitoring position for 2011-12.

(2) Mr Simmonds said that the likely revenue under-spend was a considerable achievement, and that the capital programme was also a pleasing position overall. In answer to a question regarding roll-over Mr Wood confirmed that a report would be submitted on that matter to Cabinet in June or July.

(3) Mr Carter said that efforts were continuing to be made to accelerate progress with the Home Office in relation to the issue of asylum clients for whom grant funding could not currently be claimed.

(4) Cabinet resolved to note the report and the changes to the capital programme.

23. Annual Business Plans 2012-13

(Item 5 - report by the Cabinet Member for Business Strategy, Performance and Health Reform, and the Corporate Director for Business Strategy and Support)

(David Whittle, Head of Policy and Strategic Relationships, was present for this item)

See Record of Decision on page 3 of the Minute pack.

24. Children's Services Improvement Panel - Minutes of 17 January 2012

(Item 7)

(1) Mrs Whittle said, and Cabinet agreed, that a report and presentation on Phase 2 would be submitted to the next meeting of Cabinet.

(2) Cabinet resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Services Improvement Panel held on 17 January 2012 be noted.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY
Cabinet – 16 April 2012

DECISION NO.
12/01829

Unrestricted

Subject:

Approval of Annual Business Plans for 2012/13

Summary:

Annual Business Plans for 2012/13 had been prepared at a divisional level due to the extent of ongoing management and structural change across the organisation. This was an interim measure, and there will be further consideration of the most appropriate level of granularity as part of the process for developing plans for 2013/14.

A revised template had been used which was based on a model used across Whitehall Departments. This was more focused on detailing the actions underpinning the delivery of priorities, identifying accountable officers for delivery, start and end dates, milestones and performance indicators with more benchmarking and floor performance information to contextualise performance targets.

Mr Carter said that the draft business plans for 2013/14 should go through Cabinet Committees as part of the development process.

Decision:

Cabinet resolved to approve the Annual Business Plans for 2012/13 as listed in the attached Appendix A.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken

Mrs Jenny Whittle made a declaration of personal interest and took no part in the discussion and vote on this matter

Reason(s) for decision, including response to any Cabinet Committee recommendations, and any alternatives considered

As set out above, and in the Cabinet report.

Background Documents:

Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/15 and County Council Budget Book 2012/13

The following Business Plans are submitted for approval:

ELS – Advocacy & Entitlement
ELS – Special Education Needs
ELS – Fair Access
ELS – Skills & Employability
ELS – Standards & School Improvement
ELS – Education Psychology
ELS – Provision Planning

FSC – Learning Disability / Mental Health
FSC – Older People / Physical Disability
FSC – Strategic Commissioning
FSC – Specialist Children’s Services

BSS – Finance & Procurement
BSS – Governance & Law
BSS – Business Strategy
BSS - Regeneration & Economic Development (inc. International Affairs)
BSS – Human Resources
BSS – Property & Infrastructure Support
BSS – Public Health

C&C – Communications, Consultation & Community Engagement
C&C – Service Improvement
C&C – Customer Services

E&E – Planning & Environment
E&E – Waste Management
E&E – Highways & Transportation
E&E – Commercial Services