

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 11 June 2012.

PRESENT: Mr P B Carter (Chairman), Mr M C Dance, 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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr M Austerberry (Corporate Director, Environment and Enterprise), Mrs A Beer (Corporate Director of Human Resources), 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), Ms S Dunn (Head of Skills and Employability), Mr M Burrows (Director of Communications & Engagement), Mrs A Tidmarsh (Director of Older People and Physical Disability) and Mr G Mills (Democratic Services)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

35. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2012 *(Item 3)*

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Mrs Whittle referred to paragraph 33 of the minutes and said the report on the Transformation of Children's Services would be coming to the July meeting of Cabinet.

36. Update on 2011-12 Revenue Budget Outturn *(Item 4– Report by Mr J Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Finance and Business Support and Mr A Wood the Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement)*

(1) The draft of the Council's accounts for 2011/12 had been handed to the Council's auditors and the indication was that there would be a likely under spend of some £16.2m. The report detailed the main reasons for this movement in position and Mr Simmonds said whilst the under spend reflected the Council's good financial management the budget situation would remain tight over the next 2 to 3 years. Mr Sweetland said the £6m proposed to be allocated to the rolling reserve for highways maintenance would, following the successful pothole repair scheme be targeted at road re-surfacing schemes. Mr Cockburn said the £2m earmarked for investment in technology and communications would be built around a robust business case. Mr Hill said investment in these areas would lead to improvements and make savings.

(2) Cabinet resolved to:

(a) note the provisional revenue outturn position for 2011-12,

(b) agree the transfer of £6m to the rolling budget reserve for highways maintenance, to be drawn down in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste; and,

(c) agree the transfer of £2m to the rolling budget reserve for investment in technology and communications, to be drawn down upon agreement of a robust business case.

37. Quarterly Performance Report, Quarter 4, 2011/12

(Item 5- Report by Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Business Strategy and Support and Mr David Cockburn – Corporate Director Business Strategy and Support) (Mr Richard Fitzgerald, Performance Manager was present for this item)

(1) Mr Gough said that the 30 Key Performance Indicators included in the Performance Report showed an encouraging movement from Red and Amber towards Green for the final quarter of the year. . Moving forward, future reports would include more qualitative indicators including ones linked to the Customer Services Strategy and also lead indicators such as information around demand levels. Mr Carter said the role of the Cabinet Committees would be important in helping evolve the reporting process, looking at more detailed directorate dashboards and looking at the quality and relevance of the indicators and ensuring the right things were being measured.

(2) During the course of discussion several Cabinet Members provided further updated information on targets relevant to their portfolios following which Cabinet Resolved to note the report.

38. Bold Steps for Education

(Item 6– Report by Mr Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills and Mr Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning and Skills)

(1) Bold Steps for Education sets out Kent County Council's, Education, Learning and Skills vision, priorities and improvement targets to 2015 and the document had already been discussed by the Education Cabinet Committee and by Head teachers. Mr Whiting said the monitoring of the targets would mainly be through the Education Cabinet Committee but in addition two working boards would also be established to ensure targets remained focused and on course for delivery. There would also be an annual update to Cabinet. Overall Bold Steps for Education was a focused and ambitious strategy which would improve and champion educational excellence and support the drive towards ensuring Kent was one of the best places in the country to be educated. Mrs Dunn spoke of the importance of the 14 to 24 strategy aimed at building links between schools and businesses to help and aid young people move from education into work. There was also a need to look at narrowing the gap of attainment for young people with disabilities. Mr Carter said it was essential for the County Council to take this opportunity to develop momentum around the need for schools to develop programmes which met the needs of its pupils and the business community.

(2) Following further discussion Cabinet resolved to endorse the Education, Learning and Skills' Vision and Priorities for Improvement, in order to create the conditions in which pupils experienced the best teaching and learning, so that:

- excellence was promoted across the system and the County had more good and outstanding schools;
- the Council commissions and provides sufficient school places of good quality
- educational standards improved and every child and young person in Kent met their full potential; and
- every young person benefited from a broad range of pathways to further learning and employment, both for their own achievement and future employability and for the success of the Kent economy.

39. Update on Change to Keep Succeeding

(Item 7– Report by Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Business Strategy and Support and Amanda Beer, Corporate Director for Human Resources)

(1) This report provided an update on progress in all areas covered by the Change to Keep Succeeding programme of organisational change including progress on populating the senior level of the new operating framework, changes to staffing across the Authority since April 2011, restructures and other key organisational development activity.

(2) Mr Gough said the past 12 months had seen a reduction in staff numbers of 1,296, which in terms of full time equivalent posts equated to 966. The number of redundancies was 605 with an overall cost of £5m which averaged to £8k per case. Mrs Beer said the restructures currently under consultation and planned would likely see a further reduction in posts and a reduction in the number of tiers of management. The agreed model for tiers and management accountability was being consistently applied across KCC. Staff communication and engagement remained significantly important in order to ensure there was understanding and engagement as these changes evolved. The Organisational Development and People Plan was being embedded in all directorates. Mr Carter said the restructuring had seen some tough decisions needing to be taken over the past 12 months and it was essential as staff numbers changed that there was rigour in ensuring the right people remained with the organisation as it moved forward. Mr Carter placed on record his thanks to staff for maintaining high levels of service and standards during this period.

(3) Cabinet resolved to note the report

40. Decisions from Scrutiny Committee - 23 May 2012

(Item 8– Report by Mr Alex King, Deputy Leader and Mr Peter Sass Head of Democratic Services)

Cabinet resolved that this report be agreed

41. Record of Decision

DECISION TAKEN BY Cabinet – 14 May 2012	DECISION NO. 12/01905
Unrestricted	
Subject: Adult Social Care Transformation Programme. <i>(Mr Mark Lobban was present for this item)</i>	
<p>(The draft minutes of the meeting of the Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee were circulated at the Cabinet meeting. The view of the Cabinet Committee was that the Transformation Programme Blue print and Preparation Plan should be endorsed)</p> <p>(1) This report and the Adult Social Care Transformation programme blue print and preparation plan set out the Families and Social Care directorate's initial approach to the longer-term transformation of adult social care. Mr Gibbens said the proposals presented a radical change to way the Council looked after older people. Whilst the Transformation Programme would deliver savings it also demonstrated the County Council's ongoing commitment to support carers and to helping them more. Mr Ireland and Mr Lobban said because of existing pressures there needed to be a radical change in the approach in the way these services were delivered, whilst at the same time helping people to better manage their own health care.</p> <p>(2) Following further discussion Cabinet agreed the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Blueprint and Preparation Plan and noted the matter would also be discussed at the next meeting of the County Council.</p>	
Any interests declared when the Decision was taken none	
Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information The reasons for this decision are set out in this notice and also in the Cabinet Report and the accompanying copy of the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Blueprint and Preparation Plan.	
Background Documents: Adult Social Care Transformation Blueprint and Preparation Plan	

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information The reasons for this decision are set out in this notice and also in the Cabinet Report.
