

Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall,
Colliton Park, Dorchester on 25 February 2015.

Present:

Robert Gould (Chairman)

Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Peter Finney, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson and Rebecca Knox.

John Wilson, Chairman of the County Council, attended under Standing Order 54(1).

Members attending:


Paul Kimber, County Councillor for Portland Tophill
Daryl Turner, County Councillor for Marshwood Vale

Officers Attending: Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Nicky Cleave (Assistant Director of Public Health), Catherine Driscoll (Director for Adult and Community Services), Patrick Ellis (Assistant Chief Executive), Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy), Jonathan Mair (Monitoring Officer), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services), Kirstie Snow (Communications and Marketing Officer) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate

Patrick Myers (Head of Business Development), Lisa Trickey (ICT Business Partner) and David Walsh (Economic Development Group Manager).

(Notes:(1) In accordance with Rule 16(b) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules the decisions set out in these minutes will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication date. Publication Date: **3 March 2015**.

(2) The symbol () denotes that the item considered was a Key Decision and was included in the Forward Plan.

(3) These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Cabinet to be held on **18 March 2015**.)

Apologies for Absence

63. No apologies for absence were received.

Code of Conduct

64. There were no declarations by members of any disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

65. The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2015 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

Public Speaking

66.1 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

66.2 There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

67. There were no petitions received in accordance with the County Council's petition scheme at this meeting.

Draft Cabinet Forward Plan

68.1 The Cabinet considered the Draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet and items planned to be considered in a private part of the meeting on or following the Cabinet meeting on 18 March 2015. The draft plan was published on 17 February 2015.

68.2 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care confirmed that the item included on the draft Plan in relation to the Bridport Hub would be incorporated into the next Asset Management Plan update and would not be reported as an individual item on 18 March 2015.

Resolved

69. That the Forward Plan be updated following the comment outlined in the minute above.

Panels and Boards

70. The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

- (a) Executive Advisory Panel on the Care Act and Future Social Care Policy – 12 January 2015
- (b) Executive Advisory Panel on Pathways to Independence – 15 January 2015
- (c) Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee – 19 January 2015

Resolved

71. That the minutes be received.

Forward Together Update

72.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development on the progress being made through the Forward Together Programme across the Council.

72.2 Members considered the content of the report and discussed the detail in respect of the rollout and delivery of smarter computing and the SharePoint system as tools to deliver flexible working and transformation across the Council. It was noted that the delivery of smarter computing had been delayed and that efforts were being made to understand the problems and provide a clear plan within the next month which would detail the milestones and expected completion date for the programme so that officers could be held to account. In the meantime the governance of the programme had been reviewed and a new Board had been set up to monitor key projects and keep a focus on the benefits for customers. It was noted that the plan would be included in the next update to Cabinet on 18 March 2015.

72.3 In relation to SharePoint, concern was also expressed regarding the Members' Gateway as it was originally anticipated that it would include a document repository would be used to aid the transition to a digital by default approach for members. As the site was affected by the delay in smarter computing it was not possible to fully enable members to change the way they worked, although efforts were being explored in relation to

an interim cloud based solution. Officers undertook to explore options further to see if there were any more short term solutions to help members.

72.4 The Cabinet was informed about the work of the Commissioning and Procurement Board. Reassurance was given that as a result of the Social Values Act 2012 more emphasis would be given to the most effective use of public funding through recognition of the needs of localities and to commission services accordingly, with appropriate attention in relation to the charitable and voluntary sectors. The Board would have a focus on strategic and micro commissioning as a key aspect of provision of services and procurement was the tool to achieve the outcomes of the commissioning activity to provide flexibility at all levels of service delivery. Members noted that periodic updates on the Board's activity would be included in future update reports.

72.5 Concern was raised about the cost of the property estate and the use or disposal of land owned by the Council to ensure best value and realise the potential of capital assets to generate income. It was reported that the options in relation to the future of land and properties would be considered by the Commercialisation and Income Generation Board which could include development, income generation through advertising or renewable energy, or ultimately disposal. A request was received regarding the need to keep all members informed of the options in respect of property and land in their electoral divisions. It was noted that liaison with local members was already in place and any decision would be reported through regular asset management updates to the Cabinet. It was also noted that a report on the Council's approach to dealing with capital assets would be submitted to a meeting of the Cabinet in due course.

Resolved

73.1 That the progress of the Forward Together Programme be noted.

73.2 That a plan in relation to the delivery of smarter computing and SharePoint be included in the regular Forward Together update report to Cabinet on 18 March 2015.

73.3 That periodic updates on the work of the Commissioning and Procurement Board be included in update reports.

73.4 That a report on the potential of capital assets be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration in due course.

Action Plan in response to the Audit and Scrutiny Call to Account for the procurement and implementation of the schools meals contract across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole

74.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People in relation to the action plan created as a result of the recent Call to Account by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 16 October 2014 regarding the procurement and implementation of the schools meals contract across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole.

74.2 The Leader of the Council introduced the report and summarised the recommendations that were made by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee which referred to concerns regarding the letting of the contract; assessment and management of risk; delivery of the contract before and after September 2014; and communication with schools by the provider. Further comments from the Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee were also considered at the meeting, and it was noted that the suggested progress report would be considered by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee as well as the Cabinet.

74.3 It was reported that the issues experienced had been monitored on a daily basis and there was oversight of every complaint received as a result of the service problems. It was confirmed that all schools affected had been reimbursed through

compensation. The service was now operating from the originally anticipated hub kitchen in Poole and provided 11,000 meals per day on the pan-Dorset contract.

74.4 The Cabinet supported the action plan which had addressed the issue of school meals provision, and had also provided proper visibility and accountability through contracts which would lead to better processes in the future. Members were encouraged by the statement within the report of links to the Social Value Act 2012 which outlined the Council's commitment to local outcomes from commissioning and procurement activity in the future. The final statement would be reported to the Cabinet at its next meeting on 18 March 2015.

74.5 The Leader of the Council thanked all members and officers for their efforts in dealing with the problems encountered and reaching a solution for the future, together with the wider benefits to future contract arrangements.

Resolved

75.1 That the action plan that addresses the recommendations made in the Audit and Scrutiny Committee's report be supported.

75.2 That the draft Social Value Statement which sets out the authority's commitment to local outcomes from commissioning and procurement activity be supported, and that the final statement be considered by the Cabinet on 18 March 2015.

75.3 That a 6 month update report be produced on progress to the actions assigned to each of the recommendations, to be considered by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee and the Cabinet in due course.

Reason for Decisions

76.4 To provide the Cabinet with the assurances that processes and practice had improved as a result of the recommendations made.

Recommendation from the Standards and Governance Committee

77.1 The Cabinet considered the following recommendation from the meeting of the Standards and Governance Committee held on 26 January 2015:

Recommendation 18 – Pan-Dorset Community Safety and Criminal Justice Board

77.2 The Chairman of the Council, as the Chairman of the Standards and Governance Committee, explained that the Committee had been supportive of the recommendation following reservations regarding member representation on the Board on behalf of District and Borough Councils and that a review of the arrangements should be undertaken after an initial 12 month period. It was noted that both reservations had been addressed through District and Borough liaison arrangements and it was confirmed that a review would be carried out as requested. The Cabinet recognised that the report had been considered by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 December 2014.

77.3 The principles of the new Board were highlighted as a positive move forward and that other partners firmly supported the proposals, including Police and Fire in Dorset. It was noted that there would be a period of time where the Community Safety Partnership would continue to operate alongside the new Board in order to support the transition to the new arrangements. Recognition was given to the significant contribution of the Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership who would be standing down at the forthcoming elections on 7 May 2015.

Resolved

78. That the establishment of a pan-Dorset Community Safety & Criminal Justice Board be approved.

Reason for Decision

79. To ensure the future success of partnership work to sustain safe communities in all areas of Dorset.

Recommendation from the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee

80.1 The Cabinet considered the following recommendation from the meeting of the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee held on 21 January 2015:

Recommendation 21 – The Establishment of the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board

80.2 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care explained that the establishment of the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board would formalise the arrangements that had been in place for some time, but with a wider remit. Reports would also be considered by the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee in the future to give formal scrutiny of the Board. The governance arrangements were noted, but the Cabinet Member indicated that she was keen to encourage more member representation on the Board. Detail with regard to the final arrangements would be considered by the Cabinet in due course.

Resolved

81. That the formal establishment of the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) by April 2015 be agreed.

Reason for Decision


82. The Care Act required that the local authority must be responsible for the establishment of a SAB. The establishment of the Board represented an important step forward in the protection of vulnerable adults, and therefore contributed to the County Council's area of focus on health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

Questions from Members of the Council

83. No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20.

Exempt Business**Exclusion of the Public**Resolved

84. That in accordance with Section 100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting in relation to the business specified in minutes 85-90 because it was likely that if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.


Dorset Green, Purbeck: proposed acquisition and development of workspace (Paragraph 3)

85.1 The Cabinet considered an exempt report by the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth in relation to the future of land at Dorset Green, Purbeck. The report contained exempt information in accordance with paragraph 3, relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

85.2 The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth introduced the report which sought to secure agreement to invest in a public sector and Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership proposal to acquire and develop workspace at Dorset Green, Purbeck for employment purposes, and provide confidence for further private sector investment and growth in accordance with the Social Values Act 2012. He confirmed that the proposal was supported by Purbeck District Council and the Homes and Communities Agency.

Comments from the County Councillor for Egdon Heath, as the local member for Dorset Green were also acknowledged.

85.3 The Cabinet was very supportive of progressing the development which would contribute towards economic growth, as a key corporate aim of the Council. It was recognised that the process of considering such a proposal would normally take longer but a quick decision was needed in order to seize the opportunity.

85.4 It was agreed that due to the timeliness of the consideration of the proposal by Cabinet, retrospective consideration should be undertaken by the Asset Management Group to validate the decision and provide any advice on the risks associated with the delivery of the project. Any lessons from dealing with proposals of a similar nature in the future were also welcomed.

Resolved

86.1 That expenditure, as detailed within the report of the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth, to jointly acquire 6.2 hectares of land at Dorset Green be approved, together with Purbeck District Council, and progress the development of 1800 square metres of workspace units (subject to confirmation of funding from the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership and Purbeck District Council).

86.2 That delegated authority be granted to the Director for Environment and the Economy, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth and in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officer and Head of Legal Services, to agree terms of a partnership development agreement between Dorset County Council and Purbeck District Council to undertake the land acquisition and development project at Dorset Green.

86.3 That the Asset Management Group undertake retrospective consideration of the report to validate the decision and provide any advice on the risks associated with the delivery of the project, together with any lessons learned regarding future projects.

Reason for Decisions

87. Secured and continued use of Dorset Green for employment purposes would contribute towards the corporate aim to enable economic growth. The proposal was also aligned to the priorities of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership, as evidenced in Growth Deal II (January 2015).

Integrated Social Care and Families System for Adult and Children Services to support the Transformation Programme (Paragraphs 3 and 4)

88.1 The Cabinet considered a joint exempt report by the Cabinet Members for Adult Social Care, Corporate Development and Children and Young People in relation to the Integrated Social Care and Families System for Adult and Children Services. The report contains exempt information in accordance with:

- Paragraph 3, relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information); and,
- Paragraph 4, relating to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.

88.3 It was noted that the Cabinet had approved on 26 February 2014 the participation in the adult case management system procurement led by the Borough of Poole under the Better Together Programme, but this exercise had been unsuccessful. Efforts were now being made to explore further options between the Adult and Community Services Directorate and the Children's Services Directorate as the replacement of their respective social care case management systems was needed in order to comply with the transformation agendas of both directorates.

88.4 The Cabinet discussed in detail the timeliness of a replacement for both systems, which would be in the region of two years, and the associated costs of maintenance of the existing systems. It was recognised that there would need to be a sufficient amount of time needed for the procurement of the system and the deployment of such a complex system.

88.5 The importance of needing a system with all of the functionality required for both directorates in order to provide and share information was acknowledged, together with the need to be able to share information with GPs and other organisations such as the Police. Members felt that the risk rating within the report should be readdressed as it was currently shown as 'low' and the outcome of the project would ultimately impact on the lives of the most vulnerable people in Dorset.

88.6 It was agreed that the Cabinet Members for Adult Social Care, Children and Young People and Corporate Development should all be consulted on an on-going basis to ensure the delivery of the system.

Resolved

89.1 That the proposal to undertake the procurement and subsequent award of contract for an integrated social care and families system for Adult and Children Services be approved, subject to on-going consultation with the Cabinet Members for Adult Social Care, Children and Young People and Corporate Development.

89.2 That the initiation of a formal project to implement the procured system subject to overall estimates of costs being within the existing capital allocation of £5m be approved.

89.3 That the extension of the existing adult social care case management system, AIS, for up to two years, be approved.

89.4 That collaboration opportunities that are being explored be noted and that the procurement and/or implementation may be in partnership with Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole.

Reasons for Decisions

90.1 To support the transformational agenda of the Better Together and Forward Together programmes.

90.2 To provide a case management system that effectively complied with the Care Act.

90.3 To ensure the Children's Directorate was able to fulfil its statutory duties for social care beyond April 2017 - Children's Services S.10 statutory duty to co-operate 2004 LA and Children and Families Act 2014.

90.4 To remain in a lawful contract position regarding a contract for an Adult & Children's Social Care Case Management System.

Meeting Duration: 10.00am – 11.15am