

Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall,
Colliton Park, Dorchester on 3 June 2015.

Present:

Robert Gould (Chairman)
Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Peter Finney, Jill Haynes and Colin Jamieson.

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

Members attending:


Mike Byatt, County Councillor for Weymouth Town
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), Grace Evans (Principal Solicitor), Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services), Sarah Johnstone (Public Relations Officer) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate

Melissa Craven (Public Relations Officer), Simon Gledhill (Network Management Service Manager), Andrew Martin (Head of Highways) and Patrick Myers (Head of Business Development).

(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: **9 June 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 **8 July 2015**.)

Apologies for Absence

210. Apologies for absence were received from Rebecca Knox and Jonathan Mair (Monitoring Officer). Grace Evans (Principal Solicitor) attended the meeting in place of Jonathan Mair.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

212. The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2015 were confirmed and signed.

Public ParticipationPublic Speaking

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

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

Petitions

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

Draft Cabinet Forward Plan

215.1 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 8 July 2015. The draft plan would be published on 9 June 2015.

215.2 Concern was expressed that two items on the Forward Plan on 8 July 2015 in relation Hurn roundabout were shown as private items. Given that consultation had included local residents and businesses, the land owner, cycling groups, local members at county, district and parish councils it was requested that the items be considered as public reports. Officers undertook to update the plan if necessary before publication.

Resolved

216. That the Forward Plan be updated following the comments outlined in the minute above.

Panels and Boards

217.1 The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

- (a) Executive Advisory Panel on the Care Act and Future Social Care Policy – 11 May 2015
- (b) Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services – 11 May 2015
- (c) Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services – 21 May 2015

217.2 In relation to the minutes of the Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services, it was noted that the first two meetings had focussed on scoping the Forward Together review. It was also confirmed that access by members to the blog in relation to Forward Together for Children's Services had been circulated, and would be made available on the Members' Gateway.

Resolved

218. That the minutes be received.

Forward Together Update

219.1 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.

219.2 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Development introduced the report and provided a summary in relation to progress of the Children's Services and Property workstreams.

219.3 In relation to the Children's Services workstream, it was reported that lots of work had been undertaken through workshops that had been positively received by staff as an opportunity to engage in the future shape of services and working with partners. A further event would be held soon with stakeholders, and another workshop with staff would be held on 16 June 2015. The outcomes would start to form a plan for the future and inform the business case which would be considered by the Cabinet in September 2015. Assurance was given to the County Councillor for Weymouth Town, as the Member Champion for Economic Growth and Development, that the skills agenda would be included as an important part of the workstream.

219.4 On the Property workstream, it was highlighted that an increased focus on mixed use and better use of assets was gathering pace and there was a concerted effort to accelerate the workstream. Better use of assets by communities instead of disposal was a clear direction of travel to address the Council's estate which totalled £3.750M.

219.5 The County Councillor for Portland Tophill expressed his concern regarding the provision of assets for community use and the visibility of the options for communities and of the decision making process to allow this to happen. It was confirmed that there was a focus on service delivery and how the Council used its use assets, but there was already a long established protocol for dealing with surplus assets which included liaison with other public bodies via the Joint Asset Management Board and communities. However, it was highlighted that there could be more engagement with local members about assets within their electoral divisions.

219.6 In relation to the pace of the workstream, members discussed the need to monitor the delivery of the property changes and clarity of outcomes. It was therefore agreed that a separate and specific report on the detail of the Property workstream, including timescales, would be considered by the Cabinet, and that monitoring of the progress would be included in future Forward Together update reports and in quarterly asset management reports.

Resolved

220.1 That the progress outlined in the report be noted.

220.2 That a report on the detail of the Property workstream, including timescales, would be considered by the Cabinet on 8 July 2015.

220.3 That monitoring of the progress of the Property workstream would be included in future Forward Together update reports and in quarterly asset management reports.

Reason for Decisions

221. To ensure the Forward Together programme was fully implemented to secure both the organisational benefits and financial savings necessary to deliver a balanced budget, up to and beyond 2016/17.

Social Value Act Statement

222.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People on the Social Value Act Statement, which was the result of the action plan in response to the Audit and Scrutiny Call to Account for the procurement and implementation of the school meals contract across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole.

222.2 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Development explained that the introduction of the Statement would be a valuable exercise in the evaluation of all procurement exercises which would look at benefits to the local economy by using local goods and services in Dorset. He also highlighted that there would be occasions where procurement would need

to be made outside of the County, and that there could be instances where there could be a mixture of using local subcontractors and materials even if the contractor was external to Dorset.

222.3 The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People asked for particular reference to be included regarding opportunities for employment for children leaving care due to the Council's corporate parenting role. She also promoted a Dorset based fostering programme to be shown on BBC 2 as part of fostering fortnight and it was agreed that details would be sent to all members.

222.4 The County Councillor for Portland Tophill felt that more awareness was needed in order to promote the use of local businesses in the procurement processes of the Council. The Director for Environment and the Economy highlighted the need to comply with procurement regulations, but also drew attention to using social value to maximise better value in the evaluation element of procurement. He also clarified that Dorset ranked 8th nationally for its value of work with small and medium enterprises and had also won awards from business organisations for being 'business friendly'.

222.5 It was noted that any contract in excess of £500k would be brought to the Cabinet for approval and at this stage there would be a Social Value Act Statement to support the sourcing judgements made for the specific project.

222.6 The County Councillor for Weymouth Town, as the Member Champion for Economic Growth and Development, asked that recognition be made publicly where possible of the impact that the County Council had on local economy growth. The Cabinet supported the suggestion.

Resolved

223.1 That the Social Value Policy Statement be approved.

223.2 That delegated authority be granted for the delivery of the Social Value Action Plan to the Commissioning and Procurement Board to:

- (i) Examine opportunities to expand the scope of the policy statement to include goods and services for contracts below the OJEU threshold.
- (ii) Review the policy on an annual basis.

223.3 That recognition be made publicly where possible to the impact that the County Council had on local economy growth.

Reason for Decisions

224. Successful implementation of the Act has the potential to lever in added 'social value' to our contracts and thereby deliver our corporate aims. In addition, failure to comply with the Public Services (Social Value) Act exposes the authority to risk of challenge.

Questions from Members of the Council

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

Exempt Business

Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

226. 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 227-229 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 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.

Future Service Delivery of On-Street Parking Enforcement (Paragraph 3)

227.1 The Cabinet considered an exempt report by the Cabinet Member for Environment regarding the future service delivery of on-street parking enforcement. 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).

227.2 The Cabinet Member for Environment provided an overview of the history from 2013 which had led to the proposal for the future of on-street parking enforcement across the County. He summarised the work undertaken in respect of options appraisal and due diligence by partner authorities which had not yet been satisfactorily completed by all authorities. It was reported that it was necessary to have a consistent county-wide scheme in order to achieve efficiency savings for the service.

227.3 Cabinet members were disappointed with the progress, but the Cabinet Member for Environment clarified that efforts were underway to continue to discuss the issue through the Leaders and Chief Executive Group to reach a satisfactory outcome.

227.4 The County Councillor for Weymouth Town, as a local member, supported the principle of the report but highlighted the need for publicity to reflect positively on the relevant councils and explain the responsibility of authorities for decision making regarding the future arrangements. It was agreed that a common message would be explored in terms of publicity and this could provide a brief for members to also refer to.

227.5 It was also suggested that a clear timescale was needed for the progression of dialogue to a suitable conclusion. Cabinet members agreed that a timescale was required and requested that following the completion of due diligence by the Leaders and Chief Executives Group in July 2015, the outcome and progress be reported back in October 2015.

227.6 A member suggested that attention was needed in relation to the perception of parking enforcement across the whole of Dorset.

227.7 The County Councillor for Portland Tophill, as a local member, asked for liaison regarding the impact on localities and the need for good member engagement moving forward regarding on-street parking enforcement and other parking issues as part of a holistic transport and travel solution. It was agreed that member engagement was important and that this would be addressed outside of the meeting.

Resolved

228.1 That the County Council continue to work with partner councils towards the implementation of a single Countywide Parking Partnership with a deadline of October 2015.

228.2 That the Council, having previously served notice, terminate the existing on-street parking agreement with Weymouth and Portland Borough Council with effect from 1 July 2015.

228.3 That all on-street parking enforcement across Dorset be provided by the County Council Parking Services team.

228.4 That the Council continues to provide off-street parking enforcement under the existing agency agreements on behalf of North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council and Wareham Town Council.

Reasons for Decisions

229.1 To secure the level of efficiency savings agreed by the County Council and to ensure best value in the delivery of the service.

229.2 To provide a consistent countywide service for on-street parking in accordance with the aspirations of the Traffic Management Act.

Meeting Duration: 10:00am – 11:00am