

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 26 January 2012 at County Hall, Lewes.

70. PRESENT - Councillor Jones (Chairman)
Councillors Belsey, Bennett, Bentley, Elkin, Freebody,
Glazier and Maynard.

The following members spoke on the items indicated:

Councillor Barnes	-	items 74 and 79
Councillor Birch	-	item 74
Councillor Daniel	-	item 75
Councillor Ensor	-	item 77
Councillor Field	-	item 76
Councillor Freeman	-	item 75
Councillor Scott	-	item 76
Councillor S Shing	-	item 77
Councillor Sparks	-	items 74 and 79
Councillor Stogdon	-	item 74
Councillor St Pierre	-	item 77
Councillor Stroude	-	item 77
Councillor Tutt	-	items 74 and 78
Councillor Webb	-	items 76 and 77
Councillor Whetstone	-	item 77

71 MINUTES

71.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2011 as a correct record.

72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

72.1 Councillor Freebody declared personal and non prejudicial interest in item 7 as a parent governor at West Rise School.

72.2 Councillor Maynard declared personal and non prejudicial interest in item 6 as the Leader of Rother District Council.

73 REPORTS

73.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

74 RECONCILING POLICY, PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

74.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive including the Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2016/17, the Revenue Budget 2012/13, the Children's Services Transformation Programme Outline Business Case, the potential impact, from an equalities perspective, of the proposals in the Council's Capital programme and Revenue Budget, the draft three year portfolio plans, the views of Scrutiny Boards, a report on the findings of the consultation that has been undertaken together with representations received .

74.2 It was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree the Children’s Services Transformation Programme Outline Business Case, the development of a detailed business plan and to agree a ringfenced one off investment fund as set out in Appendix 3 of the report;

(2) recommend the County Council to approve the draft Capital Programme in relation to schemes in progress or about to start and those to start in 2012/13 and 2013/14 and to note the schemes provisionally included in the Capital Programme in future years, as set out in Annex 5 of Appendix 1 of the report;

(3) note the draft Prudential Indicators set out in Annex 4 of Appendix 1 for 2012/13 to 2014/15;

(4) note the financial update and supporting Annexes at Appendix 2 and to recommend the County Council to approve the revenue budget estimates for 2012/13 as set out in Annex 3 of Appendix 2 of the report;

(5) recommend the County Council to issue precepts accordingly to be paid by Borough and District Councils in accordance with the agreed schedule of instalments;

(6) approve the fees and charges set out in Annex 8 of Appendix 2;

(7) approve the draft portfolio plans at Appendix 5 as the basis for developing the Council Plan and authorise Chief Officers to finalise the portfolio plans, in consultation with the relevant Lead Member; and

(8) note the views of the Scrutiny Boards as set out in Appendix 6.

Reason

74.3 To achieve the development of a sound medium term financial strategy.

75 WASTE AND MINERALS PLAN

75.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment.

75.2 It was RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to -

(1) note the analysis of the response to the consultation on the draft Waste and Minerals Plan;

(2) authorise the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to agree any further changes to the text of the Proposed Submission Waste and Minerals Plan with the South Downs National Park Authority and Brighton & Hove City Council; and

(3) agree, subject to any amendment being made in accordance with 2 above, the Proposed Submission Waste and Minerals Plan for publication; consultation on its soundness; and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State in accordance with Regulations 27- 30 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.

Reason

75.3 Consultation on the draft Waste and Minerals Plan suggests that the majority of individuals and stakeholders are satisfied with the broad thrust of the Council's approach to future waste management and minerals production in the Plan Area. In accordance with legislation, a Proposed Submission Waste and Minerals Plan has been prepared which takes account of evidence, comments received and Sustainability Appraisal. It is considered that this document amounts to a 'sound' Plan and the Cabinet has agreed to recommend the County Council to agree that the Plan be submitted to the Secretary of State for testing following a statutory six week period for representations on its soundness.

76 PROPOSED RATIONALISATION OF CHILDREN'S CENTRE PROVISION

76.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services.

76.2 It was RESOLVED – to agree to formal consultation on proposals to merge 4 pairs of Children's Centres (Shinewater and West Rise, Battle and Robertsbridge, Sidley and Pebsham and Hailsham East and Dunbar Drive) as identified in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

Reason

76.3 The Council has a number of statutory duties conferred on it in respect of Children's Centres, one of which is a statutory duty to consult on any significant change. The merging of Children's Centres fits within the definition of a significant change. A consultation plan will, therefore, be developed that is proportionate to the changes proposed.

77 CHILDREN'S SERVICES INSPECTION OUTCOMES 2011

77.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services.

77.2 It was RESOLVED – to note the final reports for the Annual Grading of Children's Services, the Unannounced Inspection of the Duty and Assessment Teams and the Fostering Service Inspection.

Reason

77.3 Children's Services continue to maintain good outcomes for children and young people and Cabinet has noted the contents of the inspection reports.

78 SOUTH EAST SEVEN PARTNERSHIP

78.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive

78.2 It was RESOLVED – to note the activities and update of the South East Seven Partnership.

Reason

78.3 The work of the South East Seven Partnership continues to progress well and the quantification of potential collaborative activity and anticipated savings highlights the importance of this strategic partnership in achieving service improvements and delivering efficiency savings.

79 BUDGET MONITORING 2011/12

79.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Corporate Resources

79.2 It was RESOLVED – to note the latest monitoring position on the revenue and capital budgets

Reason

79.3 Management action is being taken to address areas of concern.

80 CONSERVATORS OF ASHDOWN FOREST – BUDGET 2012/13

80.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Corporate Resources.

80.2 It was RESOLVED – to

(1) approve the annual grant from the Trust Fund for 2012/13;

(2) recommend the County Council to approve the annual grant for 2012/13 from the Economy, Transport and Environment budget; and

(3) approve the Conservators' budget for 2012/13.

Reason

80.3 To consider the contribution from the Trust Fund and the County Council to the Conservators' budget for 2012/13.

81 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR 2012/13

81.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Corporate Resources.

81.2 It was RESOLVED – to recommend the County Council to:

(1) determine that for 2012/13 the Authorised Limit for borrowing should be £394m;

(2) adopt the prudential indicators as set out in paragraph 5 of the appendix to the report;

(3) approve the Minimum Reserve Provision Statement for 2012/13 as set out in paragraph 6 of the appendix to the report; and

(4) approve the treasury management strategy and policy statement for 2012/13 as set out in paragraph 8 of the appendix to the report.

Reason

81.3 As required under the Local Government Act 2003 and Prudential Code for Capital Finance 2004, the County Council is required to determine its authorised borrowing limit, to adopt the treasury management prudential indicators and limits and agree its treasury management strategy and policy statement.

82 ITEMS TO REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

82.1 The Cabinet agreed that items 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12 should be reported to the County Council.

[Note: The items being reported to the County Council refer to minute numbers 75, 76, 78, 80 and 81]