

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**  
held on Tuesday, 7th October, 2008 at Committee Suite 1 & 2, Westfields,  
Middlewich Road, Sandbach

## PRESENT

Councillor W Fitzgerald (Chairman)  
Councillor R Domleo (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors D Brickhill, D Brown, P Findlow, F Keegan, A Knowles, P Mason  
and B Silvester

## 67 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Macrae.

## 68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Key Decision CE22 - Transforming Learning Communities: Emerging  
Issues from Locality Review for Alsager, Congleton, Sandbach and  
Holmes Chapel

Councillors D Brickhill, P Findlow and P Mason declared personal interests  
in this item by virtue of being Members of Cheshire County Council. In  
accordance with the Constitution they remained in the meeting during  
consideration of these items.

## 69 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35, Mr J Guy of  
Northwich and Mrs B Walmsley of Middlewich (members of the public)  
addressed the meeting on the following matters relevant to the work of the  
Cabinet:-

Mrs B Walmsley:

1. Could the Council please tell me what impact the building of an  
850,000 tonne Incinerator at Weston point in Halton will have on the  
waste disposal plans of the new Cheshire East authority, as Ineos  
Chlor who are building this plant continually assert that they will be  
importing waste from Cheshire?
2. Given the increase in recycling rates across Cheshire, particularly  
the rapid success of the recycling initiatives in Middlewich and  
Northwich, and the subsequent **decline** in waste arising, could the  
Council please tell how confident they are of the figures in the  
Cheshire Waste Local Plan which assume a **growth** in Municipal  
Solid Waste arising of 1.5%

p.a. until 2010 and then 1.0% p.a. after that?

Mr J Guy:

3. If consent is given for an incinerator in Middlewich, could the Council please advise on how it plans to ensure that a continuous stream of waste is available for the plant until 2037\*, as a failure to do so would inevitably lead to fines which would be paid by local ratepayers?
4. Could the Council please tell me how many million tonnes of CO2 would be produced by a 390,000 EfW incinerator, such as the one proposed by Covanta at Middlewich, each year, and how that compares to the alternative methods of waste disposal?
5. Of the currently available alternatives to Incineration, which of them creates the lowest CO2 output (assuming transport costs to any of the alternatives are constant), and are there any commercially viable alternatives that don't require burning and venting to the atmosphere?

The Leader of the Council indicated that a written response would be sent to Mr Guy and Mrs Walmsley.

## **70 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **RESOLVED**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2008 were approved as a correct record, subject to an addition being made to Minute 58 (Consolidated (Interim) Sustainable Community Strategy for Cheshire East) as follows: -

“In addition, the financial table referred to in the report requires further research to ensure that all funding streams are included; specifically ward budgets, market town funds and community staffing.”

## **71 KEY DECISION CE13 - CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

Consideration was given to a draft Local Development Scheme for Cheshire East, and to its submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report:-

That the Council be recommended to approve the draft Local Development Scheme for Cheshire East and that it be submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

## **72 KEY DECISION CE20 - SHARED SERVICES**

Consideration was given to the shared service recommendations made by the Joint Liaison Committee to the Cheshire East Shadow Authority. Members sought to reassure existing staff that nothing was yet a fait accompli in respect of a shared back office and staffing groups were represented and aware of ongoing discussions by the Joint Implementation Team.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

1. That the recommendations of the Joint Liaison Committee held on 19 September 2008 regarding further areas of pan-Cheshire service delivery be endorsed.
2. That approval in principle be given to the recommendation of the Deloitte report on Shared Back Office Services specifically to:
  - (a) establish a Shared Back Office primarily located in West Cheshire, subject to confirmation of the governance arrangements, the detailed scope of the service, an outline Service Level Agreement, clarification of the cost-sharing arrangements, the scope for flexible and mobile working and locality-based staff.
  - (b) review the arrangements within two years and to consider further development of the service including market-testing as appropriate
  - (c) engage in the necessary consultation on the details of the agreed approach.

## **73 KEY DECISION CE22 - TRANSFORMING LEARNING COMMUNITIES: EMERGING ISSUES FROM LOCALITY REVIEW FOR ALSAGER, CONGLETON, SANDBACH AND HOLMES CHAPEL**

Consideration was given to the outcomes of the informal consultations held on the options identified by the Locality Review and the subsequent recommendations.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That the proposed actions by the County Council in respect of the Alsager, Congleton, Sandbach and Holmes Chapel Transforming Learning Communities Review, following the recommendations made by Cheshire County Council's School Planning Select Panel on the 1 September 2008 be endorsed as follows: -

- To authorise statutory public consultation on the possible closure of Church Lawton Primary School with effect from September 2009;
- To authorise statutory public consultation on the reduction in the net capacity of Offley Primary School to 315 places located in a single building, and the alternative use of the premises of the former Offley Infant School as a centre for delivering 14-19 education for the locality to be investigated; the reduction in the net capacity of Sandbach Primary School to 105 places with the Children's Centre for Sandbach and co-located Children's Services in the released accommodation;
- To authorise to invite the Chester Diocesan Board of Education and the Governors of Chelford CE Primary School to develop proposals for the revision of the school's net capacity to 60 by re-designation of the use of one classroom in such a way that future potential use of the building for an expanded Chelford CE Primary School, should this become warranted, is not compromised;
- To submit to the Cheshire East Unitary Authority information relating to pupil numbers in the Holmes Chapel area together with the proposed means for reducing capacity at Holmes Chapel Primary School should this be warranted at a future date;
- To authorise consultations and to request officers to develop proposals in respect of the group of schools identified for potential Federations, as described below:

Chelford CE VC, Peover Superior Endowed, Lower Peover CE VA, Marton and District CE VA, Brereton CE VA, Smallwood CEVC, Astbury St Mary's CE VA, Scholar Green, Woodcocks' Well CE VC and Goostrey Community;

- To authorise statutory consultation as part of the admission arrangements for September 2010 in respect of changes in Published Admission Numbers:

School	Current Net Capacity	Proposed Net Capacity	Current PAN	Proposed PAN
Haslington Primary	329	280	50	40
Brereton CE	150	147	30	21
Sandbach Heath St John's	150	180	30	25
Marlfields Primary	180	210	30	30
Buglawton Primary	178	210	30	30
Astbury St Mary's CE	112	126	16	18
Scholar Green	210	180	30	25
Alsager Highfields	233	233	40	37
Smallwood CE	112	126	16	18

<b>Woodcocks' Well CE</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Goostrey Primary</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Black Firs Primary</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2179</b>	<b>2230</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>320</b>

Note: these are changes needed to align net capacity and PAN in the light of current use of accommodation

- To authorise consultation as part of the admission arrangements for September 2010 on reduction in the published admission number for Cranberry Primary School from 45 to 30, and to ask officers to develop proposals for the use of the released former infant school building which retained it for use as a nursery and which enable the development of co-located Children's Services in such a way that future potential use of the building for an expanded Cranberry Primary School, should this become warranted, is not compromised;
- To authorise consultation as part of the admission arrangements for September 2010 on the reduction in the published admission number for Daven Primary School from 60 to 30 to give a capacity of 210, with the released accommodation becoming available as a centre to support multi-agency working in the Congleton locality. There should be a review of the operation of primary school catchment areas in and around Congleton.

#### **74 KEY DECISION - NEW MODEL OF SOCIAL CARE FOR NEW COUNCILS**

Consideration was given to an update on progress so far and to the emerging model of social care.

#### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

1. That the emerging model of Social Care , including the high level design principles contained within this report, be accepted and endorsed as a framework for developing more detailed proposals for phased implementation by New Councils and for inclusion within 2009/10 budget setting process.
2. The principle of a formula based up front Resource Allocation System (RAS) be agreed pending a more detailed testing and a specific member sign off for the 2009/10 RAS in each authority and that this be incorporated within budget proposals.
3. That the budget headings outlined in Appendix 1 be accepted as the approach for budget setting within unitary authorities.

4. That it be noted that this report was considered by the Advisory Panel – People on 23 September 2008 at which it was resolved to set up a Task and Finish group which would develop performance indicators to monitor and evaluate the customer experience as a result of the new Social Care Model.

## **75 GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT INNOVATION FUND - PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Consideration was given to a response to Greater Manchester's proposals for developing a Transport Innovation Fund Project, including congestion charging. Concerns were expressed regarding the apparent trend for a reduction in the number of train services from Cheshire East into Greater Manchester.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report and as now given: -

1. That Greater Manchester Transport Innovation Fund be informed that the proposals are unacceptable to Cheshire East Council on the grounds that:
  - *This consultation exercise has again been largely targeted within the Manchester Boundary. In particular, it is unsatisfactory that efforts have not been made to fully engage with residents and business in the wider Manchester travel to work area on the scale used within Manchester itself. There is further concern that the planned referendum will only apply to Greater Manchester residents.*
  - *There has been a complete lack of serious analysis and identification of transport improvements beyond the Greater Manchester boundary. The promoters have not acted to engage with the Cheshire Councils to consider cross boundary schemes that would be beneficial to residents and businesses and provide an alternative to paying the congestion charge.*
  - *If the TIF proposals are to deliver the full economic potential that is suggested, then they will need to extend and improve connectivity to labour markets and businesses outside Manchester. However, the planned measures do not address what improvements would be necessary for those areas beyond Greater Manchester including Cheshire East.*
2. That the response should be sent to AGMA as a formal response to the Transport Innovation Fund consultation and to the Department for Trade and the Secretary of State for Transport to highlight

Cheshire East Council's concerns about implementing these proposals.

## **76 DEVELOPING A MODEL FOR LOCAL WORKING**

Consideration was given to the development of a model for local working across the Cheshire East Authority, recognising the need for community engagement and empowerment mechanisms.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That approval be given to: -

- (a) a set of principles to inform the development of local working, both at area and neighbourhood level;
- (b) an outline model of local working detailed in Appendix A as the basis for further work and discussion with Members, officers and partners;
- (c) to establish a number of Local Area Partnerships, the number and boundaries to be finalised following detailed debate with strategic partners (e.g. police, fire, health, etc.), local councils and third sector representatives;
- (d) draft terms of reference for the Local Area Partnerships so as to inform this detailed debate;
- (e) further work be undertaken on the potential cost of and options for supporting local working as identified through ongoing discussion; and
- (f) further work be undertaken on the possible functions which could be delegated to Local Area Partnerships, having regard to existing schemes of delegation across the four authorities and also the views of partners and any delegations they may wish to make.

## **77 CHESHIRE EAST CRIME AND REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP**

Consideration was given to a report on the establishment of a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership for East Cheshire from October 2008.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That approval be given to the establishment of a shadow Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership for the new authority in advance of the 1 April deadline, to ensure continuity of service, effective use of resources and the confidence of partner agencies, and other co-operating bodies

such as the Youth Offending Team, Drug Action Team the Community and Voluntary sector, housing commissioners and providers and others.

## **78 STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

Consideration was given to a strategy for engaging with key external stakeholders to ensure that have a clear understanding of the vision of the new Council and how to contact and engage with it.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That the strategy and proposed communications activity be approved.

## **79 SECTION 24 APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT**

Consideration was given to a report by the Interim Monitoring Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer on Section 24 Consents issued under delegated powers since the last meeting. Details were reported of decisions in respect of works at Queens Park, Crewe and a lease of land at Goostrey Primary School.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That the report be noted.

## **80 PROGRESS REPORT**

Consideration was given to an update on the programme, giving progress made against key milestones, and to the steps to be taken in the coming months. It was requested that Members be kept advised concerning communications with staff.

### **RESOLVED**

For the reasons set out in the report: -

That the report be noted.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.40 pm

W Fitzgerald (Chairman)  
CHAIRMAN