

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**
held on Monday, 17th January, 2011 in The Capesthorne Room - Town Hall,
Macclesfield SK10 1DX

PRESENT

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

Councillors Rachel Bailey, D Brown, H Gaddum, A Knowles, J Macrae,
P Mason and R Menlove

Councillors in attendance:

Councillors A Arnold, Rhoda Bailey, R Fletcher, D Flude, O Hunter, D Neilson,
A Thwaite, G Walton and S Wilkinson.

Officers in attendance:

Chief Executive, Borough Treasurer and Head of Assets, Director of Adult,
Community Health and Wellbeing, Director of Children and Families, Head of
Health and Wellbeing, Head of Policy and Performance, Head of HR and
Organisational Development, Interim Borough Solicitor, Strategic Director
Places and Tatton Park and Visitor Economy Manager.

111 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

112 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

113 **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no questions from members of the public.

114 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 December be approved as a
correct record.

115 **KEY DECISION 10/11-55 LIFESTYLE APPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING SERVICES**

Consideration was given to the principles underpinning the development of
Health and Wellbeing Services as an arms length provider organisation.
The report included options for the delivery of the proposed service, the

financial implications and links to a number of associated proposals relating to future operating models for Care4CE. The proposal would contribute to the reduction in health and social inequalities in Cheshire East whilst continuing to offer facilities to support health improvements to the whole population of the Council area.

RESOLVED

1. That the principles which underpin this development be agreed.
2. That approval be given to implement the options appraisal to explore the appropriate vehicle for delivery of the service proposed in this report including the exploration of opportunities to become an externalised provider alongside/with Care4CE.
3. That agreement be given to the levels of investment required and that the potential financial and non-financial benefits be acknowledged, including the capital implications, in relation to working towards the lifestyle centre investment, through an options appraisal and feasibility study in 2011-2012.
4. That the links to associated proposals under consideration relating to future operating models for Care4CE be acknowledged.

116 KEY DECISION 10/11-57 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN STRATEGY AND DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

(Councillor D Brown arrived during consideration of this item)

Consideration was given to the proposed changes for incorporation into the final Local Transport Plan Strategy, and to the Draft Implementation Plan for consultation; following a four week period of stakeholder consultation the report would be submitted to full Council for final approval.

The transport priorities reflected the wider priorities of the area contained in such plans as the Sustainable Community Strategy, the Corporate Plan, the Local Development Framework and the Economic Development Strategy. Future investment in highways and transport would be directed to support the priority themes to ensure a sustainable future, and create conditions for business growth.

RESOLVED

1. That the proposed changes for incorporation into the final Local Transport Plan Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report be agreed.

2. That approval be given to the draft Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan to be released for stakeholder consultation on 18 January 2011, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

117 **KEY DECISION 10/11-60 VISITOR ECONOMY STRATEGY FOR CHESHIRE EAST**

Consideration was given to the approval and adoption of the Visitor Economy Strategy for Cheshire East. The strategy and framework set the context within which the Council would deliver services and work with partners to maximise the benefits of the areas visitor economy which was seen as an important economic sector.

The timescale for the development of the strategy had enabled it to run in parallel with that of the draft Economic Development Strategy, the Local Transport Plan, and also 2020: Meeting the Challenge, the sub regional framework for the visitor economy in Cheshire and Warrington so allowing greater coordination of related policy development.

RESOLVED

That the Visitor Economy Strategy for Cheshire East be approved and adopted as the Council's framework to deliver services and agree policy relating to the visitor economy.

118 **QUARTER THREE 2010/11 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Consideration was given to the projected financial performance for the 2010/11 financial year at the three quarter review stage. The report highlighted the key financial pressures faced by the Council, progress in mitigating action and measures to contain costs within the approved budget. In particular the report focussed upon area of high financial risk to the Council and included updates on the Capital Programme, Treasury Management, debt, and in-year collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates.

RESOLVED

1. That the following points, contained in Annex 1 of the report, be noted:
 - the updated forecast outturn position for the Council's revenue budget at the third quarter stage of 2010-11, and the remedial actions detailed in Sections 2 and 3;
 - the potential impact on the Council's general reserves position as detailed in Section 4;
 - the Treasury Management update detailed in Section 6;
 - the Council's in-year collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates, detailed in Section 7;
 - the Council's invoiced debt position as shown in Section 8;

- progress to date on delivering the 2010-11 Capital Programme, detailed in Section 9 and Appendix 1;
- Delegated Decisions approved by Directors for Supplementary Capital Estimates (SCE) and virement requests up to £100,000, as shown in Appendix 2a;
- Delegated Decisions to be approved by Directors in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder and the Portfolio Holder for Resources for Supplementary Capital Estimates and virement requests over £100,000 and up to and including £500,000 as shown in Appendix 2b.

2. That approval be given to the following:

- Supplementary Revenue Estimates totalling £165,000 for the Places Directorate to be met from general reserves, in respect of the following items (Section 3.22 of Annex 1);
 - (a) £100,000 in respect of the costs of the Covanta Planning Enquiry;
 - (b) £40,000 to meet additional costs relating to the back log of planning applications at Macclesfield;
 - (c) £25,000 for consultancy support for the preparation of the “gypsy and travellers” planning application.
- Supplementary Revenue Estimate of £864,000 for the Places Directorate in respect of Highways maintenance expenditure to be met from DCLG Winter Impact Grant (Section 3.22 of Annex 1);
- Reductions in approved capital budgets, as shown in Appendix 3a.
- Deferrals in approved capital budgets, as shown in Appendix 3b.

119 **ADULT SOCIAL CARE ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
2009/10**

Consideration was given to the results of the Annual Assessment of Performance by the Care Quality Commission, to determine the overall performance grading for the Council in respect of adult social care delivery. The overall performance grading was aggregated into an overall score from four grading levels these being performing poorly/adequately/well/excellently; the Cheshire East rating was ‘performing well’.

The report detailed the seven outcomes upon which the Council was assessed. It was noted that this would be the last time an assessment was carried out in this way and that a consultation had been received on the new framework, and that the Performance, Standards and Information Team would be responsible for coordinating the Council’s response.

RESOLVED

1. That the results and positive rating of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) performance assessment for 2001/10 be noted, and also that it was the final year of assessment in this way by the CQC.
2. That the future direction for the assessment of performance for this work be noted.

120 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE RATING FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Consideration was given to the annual performance rating for Children's Services in Cheshire East, and to the steps being taken to drive continued improvements in service delivery to children and families. The Council had 'performed well' in the assessment by Ofsted, the four point scale being poor/adequate/well/excellent based upon all inspected and regulated activity for children in areas such as childcare provision, schools and colleges, fostering, children's homes and child protection services.

RESOLVED

1. That the contents of the report, and the Annual Performance Rating of Children's Services in Cheshire East by Ofsted as 'performing well', be noted.
2. That the steps being taken by the Director of Children's Services to drive continued improvements in service delivery to children and families across the partnership of agencies comprising Cheshire East's Children's Trust be noted.

121 KEY DECISION CE10/11-75 TATTON PARK VISION

Consideration was given to the new vision for Tatton Park, aiming to substantially develop the visitor experience and to generate new sources of income and in so doing to eliminate the need for a public subsidy. The report sought guidance on the principle of investing in a number of projects as part of the Tatton vision.

RESOLVED

1. That the Tatton Park Vision, supported by a capital "invest to save" programme to realise the full potential of the asset, be endorsed
2. That the Council's Capital Programme be updated in due course to include investment in development proposals as part of the Tatton Vision programme, supported by firm business cases.

122 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

123 **KEY DECISION TATTON PARK VISION**

At the beginning of the meeting the Chairman had requested that consideration of this matter be deferred to enable Officers to obtain further clarification on legal and commercial aspects of the project.

RESOLVED

That consideration of this item be deferred to enable Officers to obtain clarification on legal and commercial aspects of the project.

124 **MANAGING WORKFORCE CHANGE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.

RESOLVED

1. That Cabinet supports the decision of the Chief Executive to release the employees whose roles are listed as 1 to 10 of Appendix A under the arrangements agreed in relation to voluntary severance provisions for employees in the Council.
2. That Cabinet notes the employee listed as 11 of Appendix A; following a management decision regarding this service, there was an urgent need to consider the request for voluntary severance from this employee. As a result the Procurement, Assets and Shared Services Portfolio Holder agreed to release them under the terms of his delegated powers.

125 **REVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL PROVISION - RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY REVIEW**

Consideration was given to the response of the Director of Children's Services to the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group of the

Children and Families Scrutiny Committee, considered by Cabinet on 20 September 20210.

RESOLVED

1. That the responses to the recommendations made to Cabinet in the report by the Children and Families Scrutiny Committee entitled Review of Residential Provision, considered by Cabinet on 20 September 2010 be noted.
2. That in response to recommendations 3 & 7 the recommendation that a further 12 residential beds should be made available within Cheshire East for children requiring residential provision and to reduce the reliance upon provision external to Cheshire East be endorsed.
3. That the Director of Children's Services be charged with taking steps to secure access to such provision in the most cost-effective manner; and that the provision should meet all statutory requirements to ensure high quality support is provided and the needs of the young people placed in the provision are met; that this be subject to completion of a cost and benefit analysis and formal approval of the revenue and capital budgetary provision via the Council's 2011/14 Budget.
4. That the necessary steps be taken to ensure the present arrangements with the Together Trust for the delivery of residential care at Wilkinson House in Sandbach can be continued for a further period of 12 months while additional provision is secured within the Borough.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.50 pm

W Fitzgerald (Chairman)