

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**
held on Tuesday, 12th March, 2019 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor L Wardlaw (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors A Arnold, P Bates, J Clowes, J P Findlow, J Saunders and
D Stockton

Councillors in attendance

Councillors Rhoda Bailey, S Corcoran, I Faseyi, D Flude, S Hogben,
R Menlove, B Moran and G Williams

Officers in Attendance

Frank Jordan, Executive Director of Place/Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Mark Palethorpe, Acting Executive Director of People
Mark Taylor, Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services
Dan Dickinson, Acting Director of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
Alex Thompson, Acting S151 Officer
Paul Mountford, Executive Democratic Services Officer

Apologies

Councillor Rachel Bailey
Kath O'Dwyer, Acting Chief Executive

In the absence of the Leader, the Deputy Leader, Councillor L Wardlaw,
chaired the meeting.

97 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

98 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

A member of the public referred to damage caused to properties, which
was said to have been caused by trees. Residents local to the area in
question had made a number of formal complaints to the Council, as well
as submitting a petition, but had not received a reply. At the meeting, the
speaker submitted to the Chairman a copy of a letter that he had written to
the Leader of the Council together with supporting documents.

The Portfolio Holder for Environment indicated that an update to the
petition lodged with the Council would be issued in the coming week. An
arboriculture consultant had been appointed to investigate the matter and
had recommended that the trees be pollarded to manage their impact
upon the area. Where pollarding was not suitable, further works would be

identified and undertaken. The Council would, if possible, undertake the pollarding in late March, but may have to delay the works to take account of the bird nesting season.

99 **QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS**

Councillor D Flude referred to proposals which she said had been in place for many months for a bridge from Gresty Road to Weston Road, Crewe, and which had not been brought to the attention of ward members. She asked for a written response as to why this was the case and asked what assurances could be given to local residents regarding the proposed scheme.

Councillor S Hogben asked whether the Council had a policy on the management of trees with particular reference to how they might affect residential properties. The Portfolio Holder for Environment replied that the Council's tree policy needed to be reviewed and brought up to date. At Councillor Hogben's request, he undertook to keep members informed of progress with the review of the policy through the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor S Corcoran asked what plans the Council had to improve air quality in Sandbach and whether this would go beyond what was set out in the air quality action plan. He also asked if the Council would be following the example of Cheshire West and Chester Council by introducing on-the-spot fines for drivers who leave their engines idling and refuse to turn them off when asked to do so. The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Regeneration undertook to provide a written response.

100 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2019 be approved as a correct record.

101 **COMMISSION OF FAMILIES ACHIEVING CHANGE TOGETHER (FACT)**

Cabinet considered a report on the impact and progress of the current FACT initiative and a proposed way forward to embed the approach for the long term involving the commissioning of three FACT teams for a period of five years (1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025). In order to assess the appetite and ability of the market to deliver the FACT model as a long term approach, a period of market engagement and testing would be needed prior to a competitive procurement process. This would require a further one year contract award (1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020) to the existing commissioned provider to ensure that there was no break in the delivery of FACT.

At the request of Councillor D Flude, the Portfolio Holder for Children and Families undertook to take a report to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee before the end of the one-year contract.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet

1. directly awards a contract to Catch 22 to deliver the Families Achieving change Together (FACT) service for the period 1 April 2019 to 31st March 2020;
2. approves the re-commissioning of the FACT service via an EU compliant competitive procurement exercise; and
3. delegates authority to the Executive Director People, in consultation with the Children and Families Portfolio Holder, to award the FACT contract for a period of five years (1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025).

102 **RURAL ACTION PLAN**

Cabinet considered a report presenting a Rural Action Plan for the three year period 2019/20 - 2021/22. The aim of the Plan, which was appended to the report, was to help inform strategic choices and identify priorities regarding the rural area, based on the Council's strategies and plans along with their related evidence base.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet

1. approves the Rural Action Plan appended to the report; and
2. delegates authority to the Executive Director Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Integration, to update the action plan as necessary.

103 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

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

104 **ASDV REVIEW UPDATE**

Cabinet considered a report on the ASDV review.

RESOLVED

That the recommendations set out in the report be approved.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.50 pm

Councillor L Wardlaw (Chairman)