

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**
held on Tuesday, 9th October, 2018 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor Rachel Bailey (Chairman)
Councillor L Wardlaw (Vice-Chairman)

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

Councillors in attendance

Councillors S Corcoran, S Edgar, D Flude, S Hogben, L Jeuda, G Merry,
M J Weatherill and G Williams

Officers in attendance

Kath O'Dwyer, Acting Chief Executive
Frank Jordan, Executive Director of Place/Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Mark Palethorpe, Acting Executive Director of People
Dan Dickinson, Acting Director of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
Alex Thompson, Head of Finance and Performance
Rachel Graves, Democratic Services Officer

The Leader commented on the progress of Crewe Green Roundabout and welcomed the work that had been achieved by the Council and its Partners and looked forward to seeing it finally finished. Work would then be starting on the Sydney Road bridge.

The Leader thanked Councillor Dorothy Flude for her work with Councillor Barry Moran in relation to the quality assurance work in regards to the Council's transformational work on behalf of the Staffing Committee and was sorry that she had decided to stand down.

42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

44 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

Sue Helliwell, speaking on behalf of residents of Meadow Croft, Alsager, asked when the damaged road sign would be replaced and asked if the road surface could be resurfaced as was in poor condition.

She also asked when Linley Road/Linley Lane in Alsager would be reopening as businesses were suffering as customers could not get to their premises and that the 'businesses open as usual' sign had been positioned in the wrong location.

The Portfolio Holder for Environment responded to say that he had been assured that these specific issues had been logged and would be responded to in an appropriate manner and encouraged all Councillors and members of the public to use the reporting logging tracking service, available on the Council's website, to report highways issues.

45 QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Councillor S Corcoran asked the Leader if she could give a very brief update on the matters that had been referred to the Police. The Leader asked the Chief Executive to respond, as she was the single point of contact with the Police. The Chief Executive responded that a procurement matter had been referred by the Police to the Crown Prosecution Service and that the other matters referred by the Council to the Police included the air quality matter, the Berkeley Academy matter and four land matters which were currently 'live' matters and that she was unable to comment further on these as investigations were still ongoing.

Councillor D Flude thanks Orbitas for the open day at Crewe Cemetery, which she had found very interesting.

Councillor D Flude raised concerns about Crewe South Ward and asked that action be taken to deal with these as the ward had the largest number of HMOs in the Borough; had seen an increase in street crime; had brothels and prostitution in the area; was the location of six houses for dealing with people with alcohol problems; had four private children's homes in inappropriate locations; methadone was being taken on the street outside the chemist, and there were issues with speeding and inappropriate parking of vehicles. The Ward was the gateway to Crewe and in its present state was not a good gateway. In response Cabinet Members stated that licensing of HMOs had been introduced with heavy fines for landlords who did not abide by these; made reference to the work of the Clean Team in Crewe and that a monitoring group had been established to look at fly tipping, which include Crewe Town Council and other agencies and would report back to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Flude was invited to attend a meeting of the monitoring group; the Substance Misuse Services had been

recommissioned and the methadone issue would be raised with health colleagues; and that the matters raised would be referred to the Safer Cheshire East Partnership.

Councillor S Hogben asked about the email retention policy and if this would have an impact on any of the police investigations. In response the Chief Executive stated that work had been done to ensure that the policy would not compromise police investigations and disciplinary matters and that officers had storage systems available to retain key information outside the email system.

46 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

47 CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Cabinet considered the Corporate Parenting Committee's Annual Report for 2017-18, which set out the work of the Committee and progress against the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Constitution set out a requirement for the Corporate Parenting Committee to report to Cabinet on at least an annual basis.

Councillor Gillian Merry presented the Annual Report to Cabinet and highlighted the key areas that the Corporate Parenting Committee had considered during 2017-18.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet endorse the Corporate Parenting Committee Annual Report 2017/18, as set out at Appendix 1 to the Report.

48 NOTICE OF MOTION - MODERN SLAVERY

Cabinet considered the Notice of Motion on Modern Slavery, which had been moved by Councillor S Corcoran and seconded by Councillor A Harewood at the Council meeting on 26 July 2018 and referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Councillors Corcoran attended the meeting and spoke in support of the motion.

RESOLVED:

The Cabinet

- 1 note that Cheshire East Council has a Social Value Policy and a Sustainability Strategy Statement for Procurement purposes, the principles of which will be embedded into any commissioning and tendering process. These will pick up the issue of modern slavery, transparency and equality in supply chains. In addition, the 'Supplier Questionnaire' sent out with tenders, asks specific questions about Modern Slavery and bidders need to confirm that those in control of any organisation have not been convicted of any offences relating to the use of child labour or human trafficking.
- 2 that the Government is reviewing the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and therefore to adopt the Co-operative Party's Charter at this stage would be premature in light of any potential revisions to the Act or related codes or charters.

49 NOTICE OF MOTION - SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Cabinet considered the Notice of Motion which had been moved by Councillor Rhoda Bailey and seconded by Councillor H Davenport at the Council meeting on 26 July 2018 and referred to Cabinet for consideration:

"We know how harmful single use plastics are to the environment; indeed in 2017 the National Federation of Women's Institutes called on the Government and industry to research and develop innovative solutions to stop the accumulation of micro plastic fibres in our oceans.

We urge full Council endorsement of this campaign and in so doing seek to eliminate all single use plastic within CEC managed buildings and facilities by 2020 and seek to encourage the elimination of single use plastic within its supply chain by 2025."

Councillors Rhoda Bailey attended the meeting and spoke in support of the motion.

It was suggested that the use of cars, cheap fashion, milk containers and retail packaging should also be considered and that the issue of single use plastics be raised with Town and Parish Councils.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1 endorse the National Federation of Women's Institutes campaign to reduce micro plastic fibres in our oceans – 'End Plastic Soup';

- 2 agree that the Council should aim to eliminate all single use plastic within CEC managed buildings by 2020 and to eliminate single use plastic within its supply chain by 2025; and
- 3 that a progress report be brought to Cabinet in 6 months and to include consideration of the use of cars, cheap fashion, milk containers and retail packaging and raising awareness with Town and Parish Councils.

50 EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Cabinet considered a report which recommended the re-commissioning of the Emotionally Healthy Schools programme and the Early Help Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service through a combined commissioned Emotionally Health Children and Young People's Service.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1 agree the re-commissioning of the Emotionally Healthy Schools programme and the Early Help Emotional Health and Wellbeing Services through a combined commissioned Emotionally Healthy Children and Young Peoples service; and
- 2 delegate authority to the Acting Executive Director – People, in consultation with the Children and Families Portfolio Holder, and Health Portfolio Holder, to award the Emotionally Healthy Children and Young People Programme contract.

51 SEXUAL HEALTH RECOMMISSIONING

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to commission Sexual Health services in Cheshire East with effect from 1 April 2019.

It was proposed that the new contract would be for 5 years with the possibility of two annual extensions. The length of the contract was designed to encourage interest from a wide range of organisations and to provide financial sustainability to the successful provider who would be expected to act as strategic lead for sexual health services in the Borough.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1 agree the recommissioning of Sexual Health service for Cheshire East to include, if practicable an agreement with NHS England for the simultaneous commissioning of cervical screening within community Sexual Health services; and

- 2 delegate authority to the Executive Director of People in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Health and Children and Families to award the contract to the successful supplier.

52 MID-YEAR REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE 2018/19

Cabinet considered a report on the Mid-Year Review of Performance for 2018/19.

The report outlined the budgetary pressures facing the Council and the mitigation measures used to address forecast overspends. The report also highlighted examples of good performance in Quarter 2.

Annex 1 to the report set out details of how the Council was performing in 2018/19 and was structured into three sections:

Section 1 - Summary of Council Performance

Section 2 - Financial Stability

Section 3 - Workforce Development

The report had been considered by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 5 October 2018. The Chief Executive read out the Committee's comments on the report, as appended to these minutes.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1 note the contents of the report and each appendix;
- 2 delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer to approve an additional supplementary revenue estimate of £561,000, subject to the successful funding bid to Public Health England, as detailed in paragraph 178 and Appendix 11 of the Report; and
- 3 recommend that Council approve fully funded supplementary capital estimates above £1,000,000 in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, as detailed in Appendix 8 to the Report.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 4.03 pm

Rachel Bailey (Chairman)

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 5 OCTOBER 2018
MID YEAR PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMENTS

That the following Comments be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting to be held on 9 October 2018:

1. That this Committee notes the projected overspend of £5.3 million in 2018/19 and that although this amount is less than in previous years at the comparable point in the financial year, the Committee still has concerns about the overall level of the projected overspend;
2. The Committee also notes that for the first time, there is a projected overspend on Corporate Services;
3. The Committee notes that savings of £1.5 million were projected in the Medium Financial Strategy but that only £500,000 had been achieved and that they questioned officers on this matter;
4. The Committee acknowledges and notes difficulties producing realistic business cases for digital projects and notes that a meeting of the Best4Business joint working group will be convened in the near future where consideration will be given to this matter. Cheshire East representatives on the working group will report back to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course.
5. The Committee acknowledges the hard work of directorates to improve services across the Council and specifically draws attention to the following:
 - the continuing good work in Children's Services managing high numbers of cared for children;
 - excellent A level results across the Borough with a provisional pass rate of 99%;
 - the reported 4% increase in usage of leisure centres in the borough;
6. That the attention of Cabinet be drawn to the following additional comments:
 - that the Committee intends to undertake a review of the content and style of report it would like in future in relation to performance data and will advise CLT accordingly on its preferred reporting style;
 - that in response to a question about allocation of business rates to Local Authorities, the Head of Finance agreed to circulate a briefing note to all Members;

- the Chief Executive undertook to provide additional information about the 73 awareness events referred to in section 1 of the report – summary of performance paragraph 7;
 - in response to a question regarding the number of gypsy and traveller encampments, reported in paragraph 24 in section 1, a link to the consultation document on the Council's website would be provided for Members;
 - that when the performance score card for Place is considered by Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 October 2018 that detail on the removal of weeds on the highway is provided.
 - that ANSA would be asked to provide information to town and parish councils on how they can arrange visits to the Environmental Hub in Cledford.
7. Cabinet is requested to record these comments in the minutes of the meeting.